

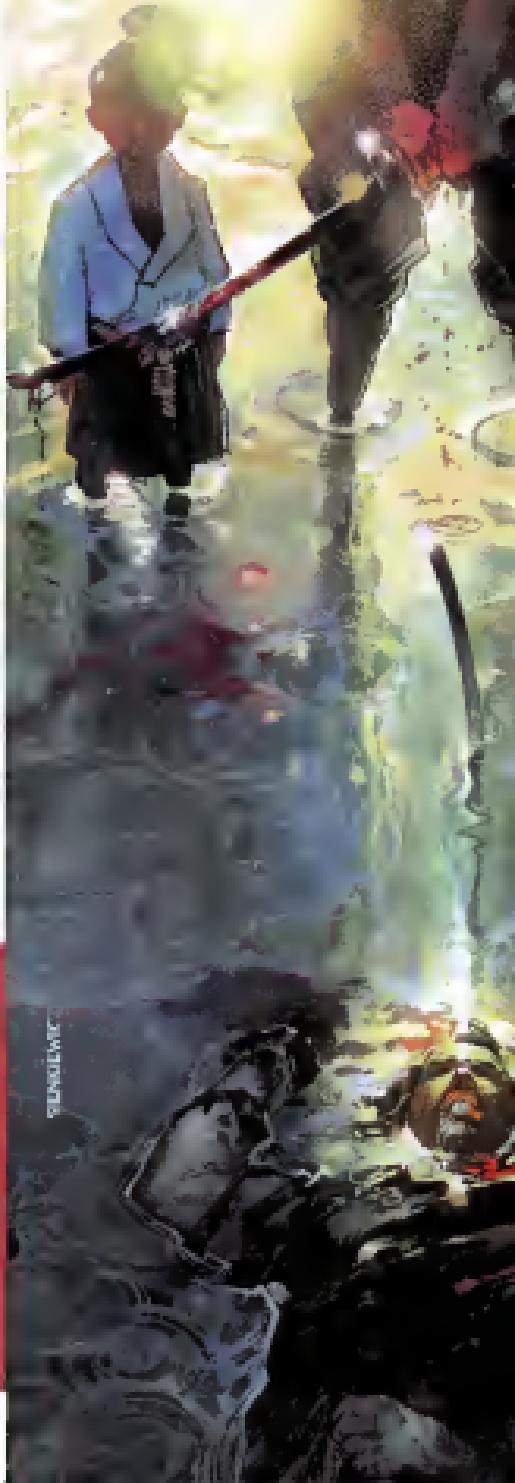
# LONE WOLF AND CUB

子連の狼

VOLUME 16

GATEWAY  
INTO WINTER

By KAZUO KOIKE  
& GOSEKI KOJIMA



孟連水狼

# LONE WOLF AND CUB



story  
**KAZUO KOIKE**  
art  
**GOSEKI KOJIMA**



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GATEWAY  
INTO WINTER

*By KAZUO KOIKE*  
*& GOSEKI KOJIMA*

子  
連れ  
狼



VOLUME  
16

# A NOTE TO READERS

*Lone Wolf and Cub* is famous for its carefully researched re-creation of Edo-Period Japan. To preserve the flavor of the work, we have chosen to retain many Edo-Period terms that have no direct equivalents in English. Japanese is written in a mix of Chinese ideograms and a syllabic writing system, resulting in numerous synonyms. In the glossary, you may encounter words with multiple meanings. These are words written with Chinese ideograms that are pronounced the same but carry different meanings. A Japanese reader seeing the different ideograms would know instantly which meaning it is, but these synonyms can cause confusion when Japanese is spelled out in our alphabet. *O-yarushi o* (please forgive us)!

# LONE WOLF AND CUB

AND



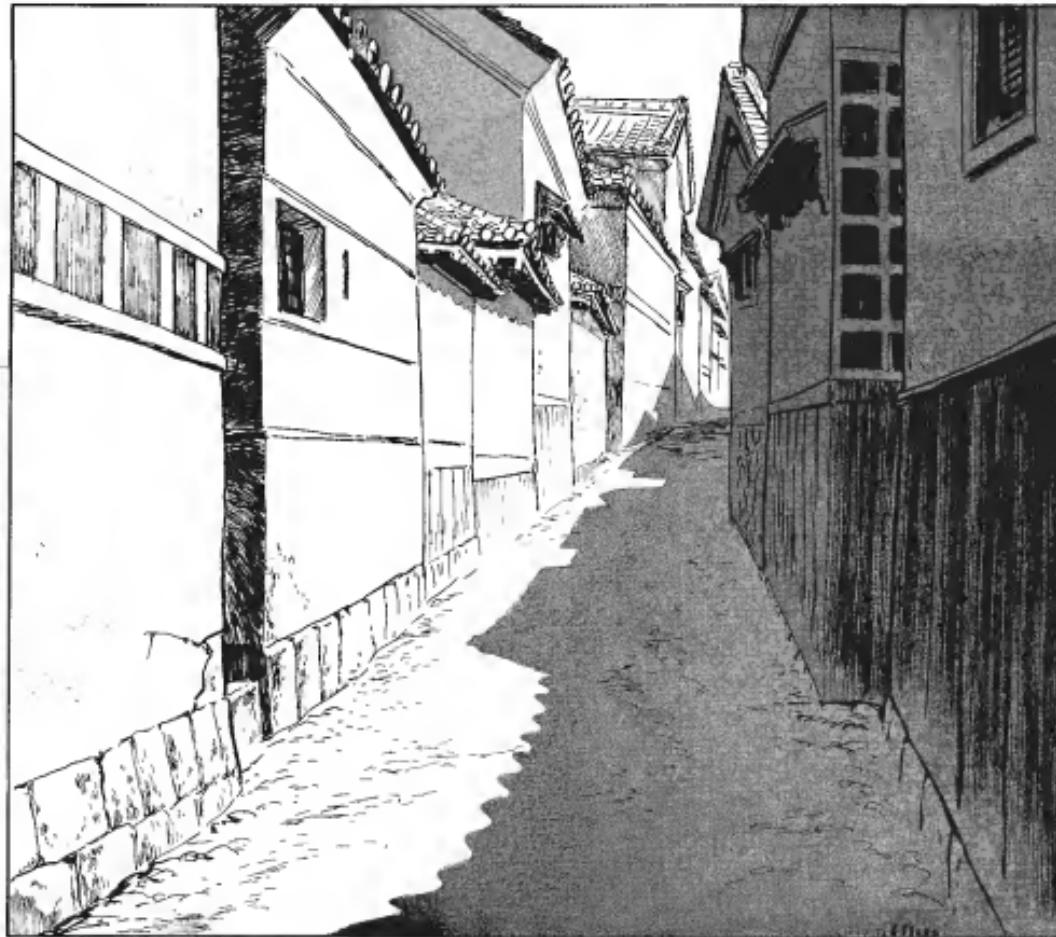
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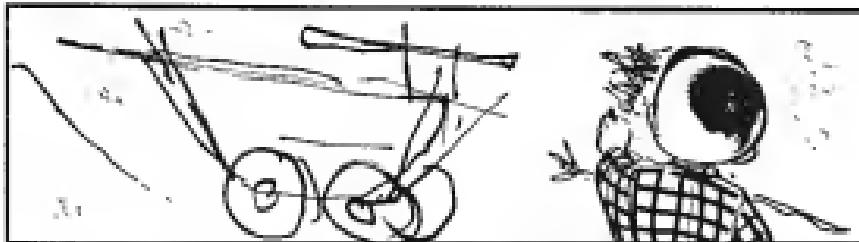
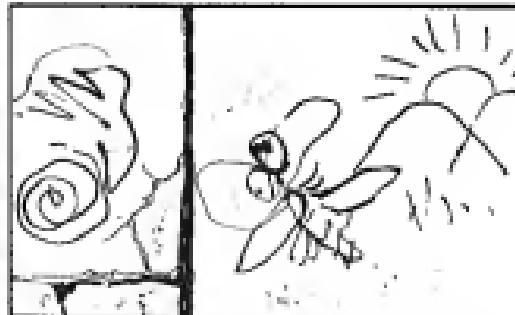
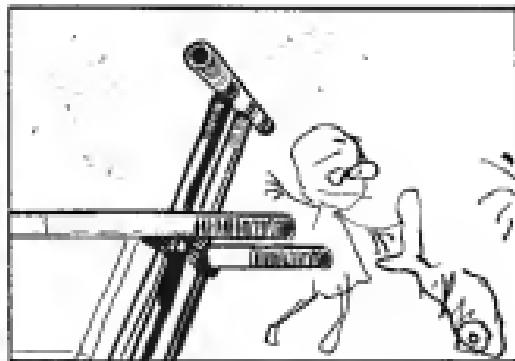
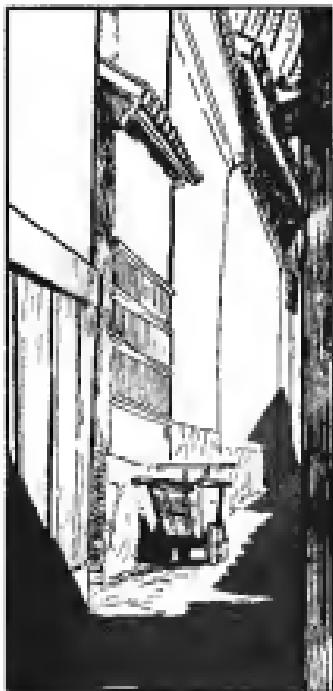
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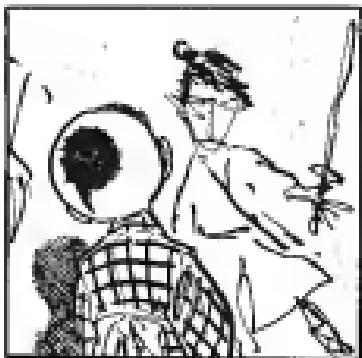
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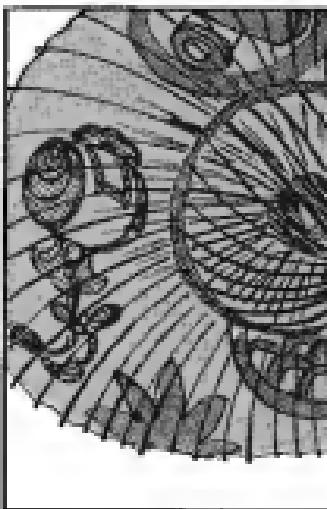
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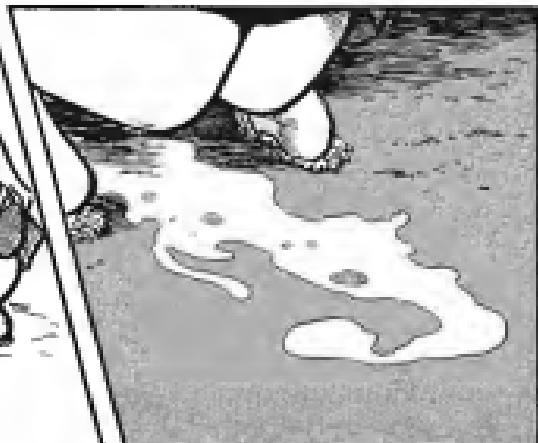


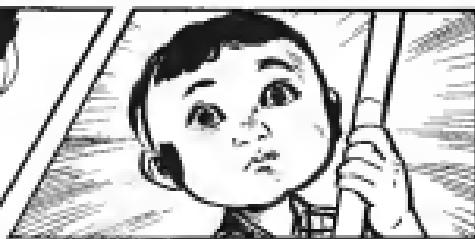
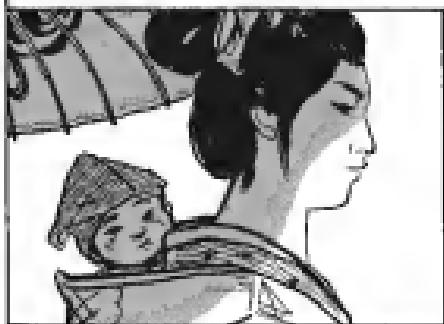
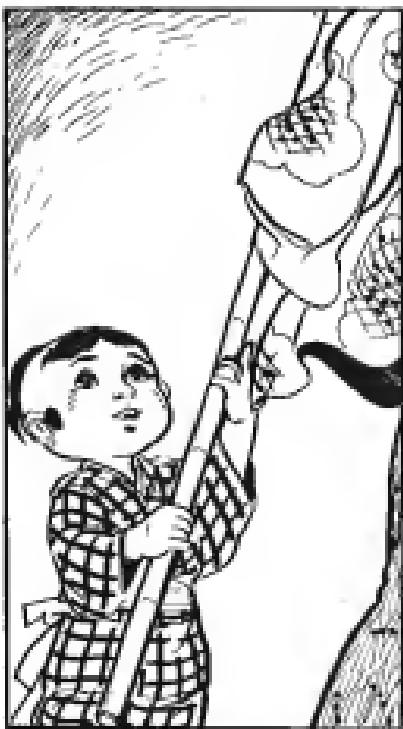




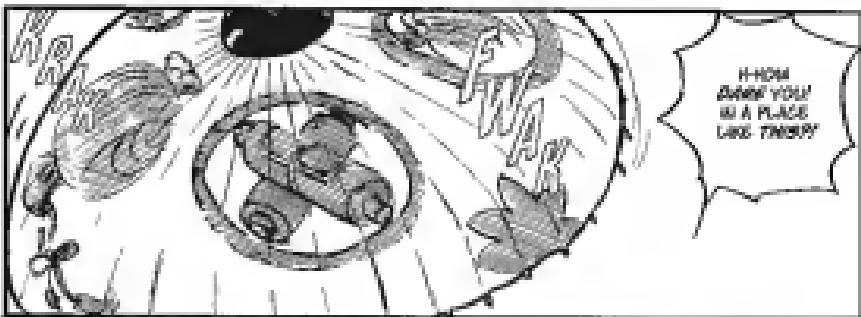
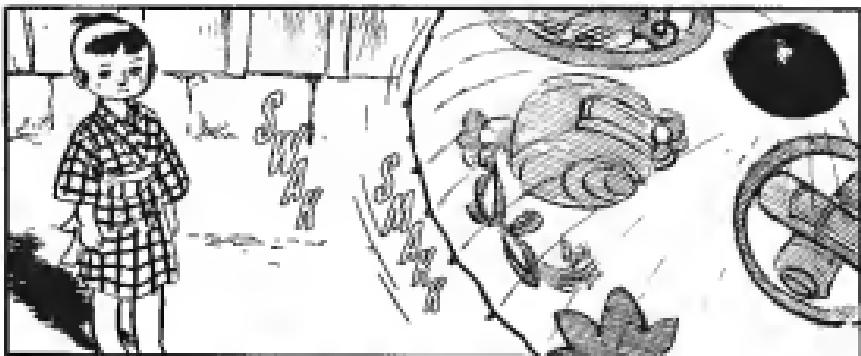


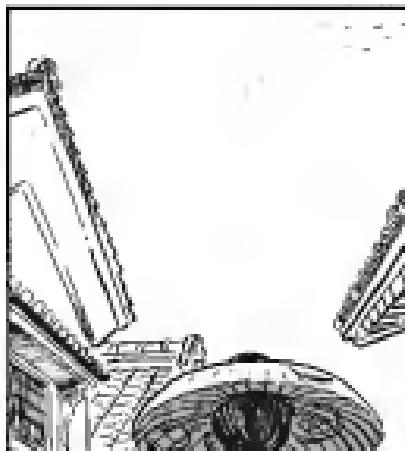
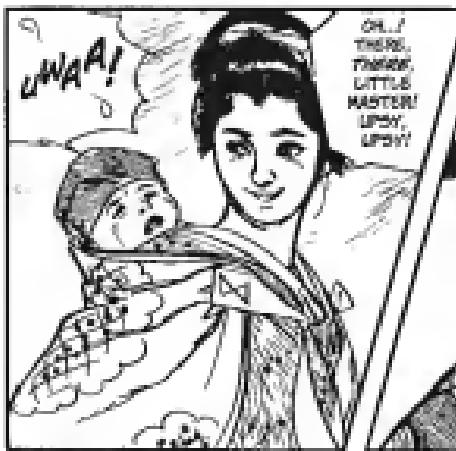


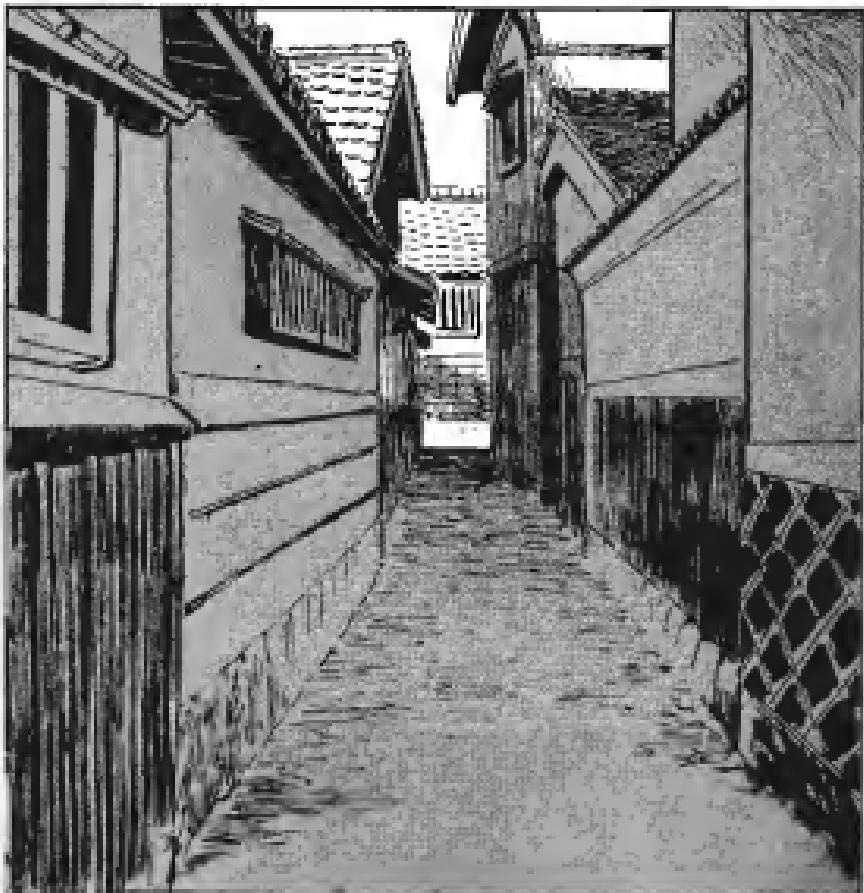
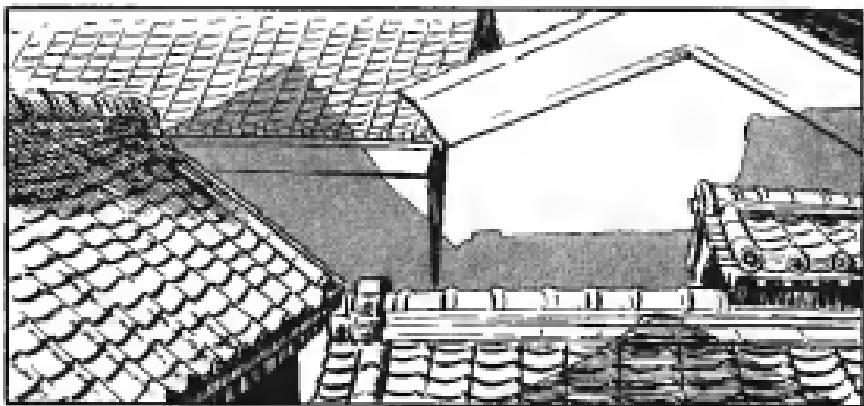


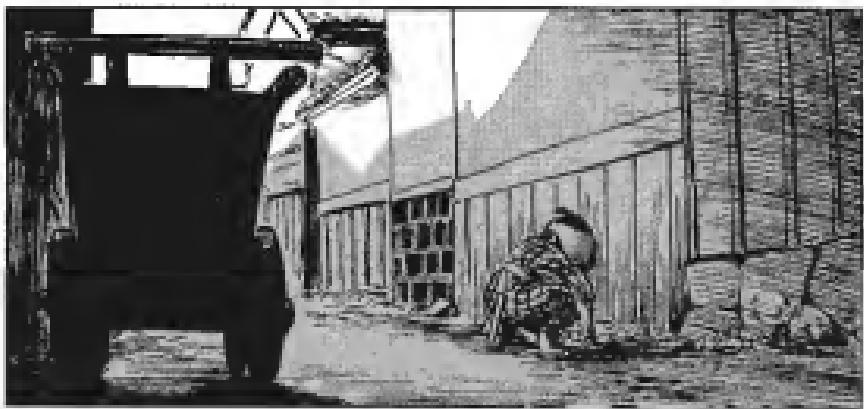


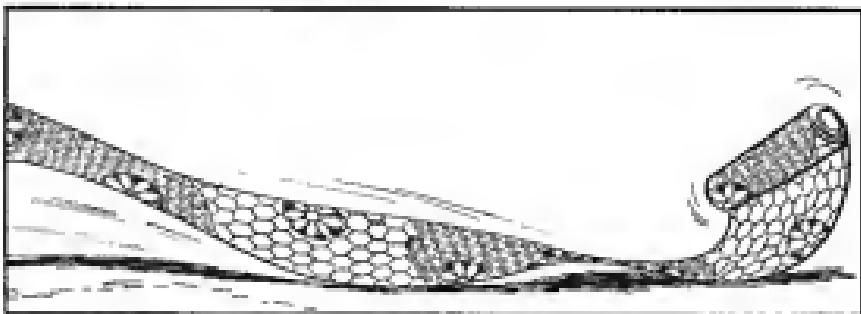
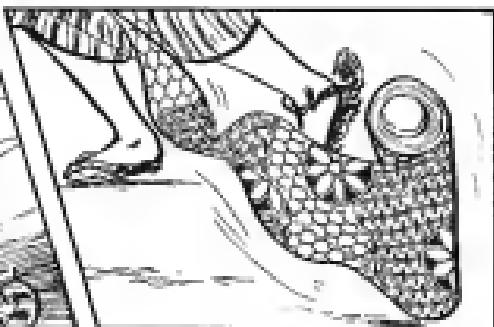








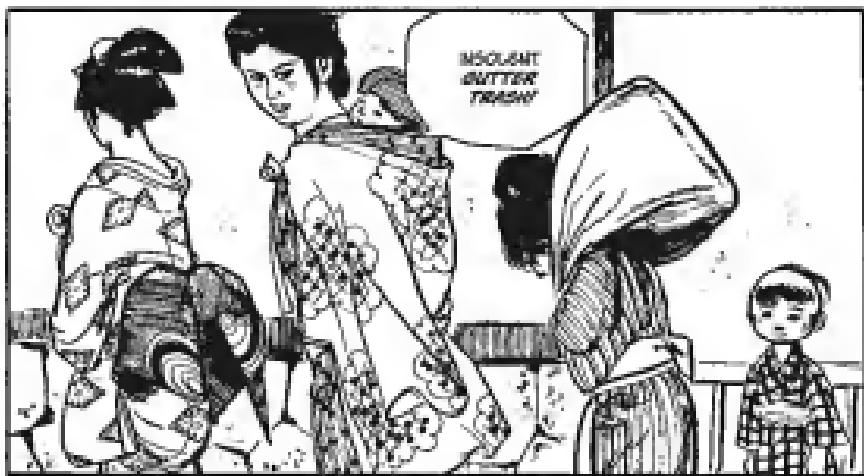


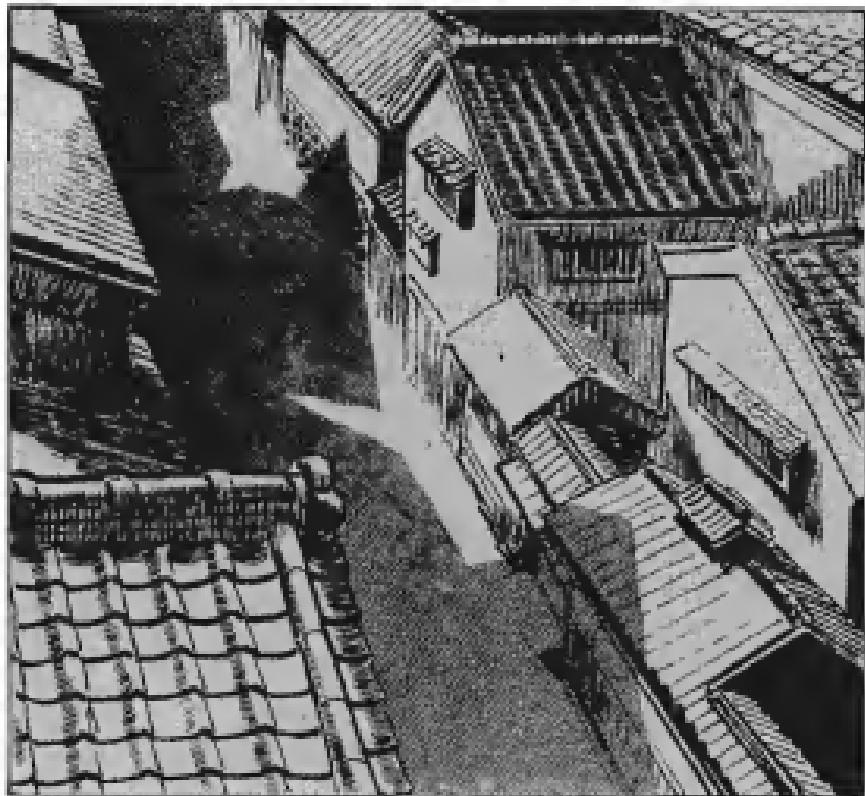


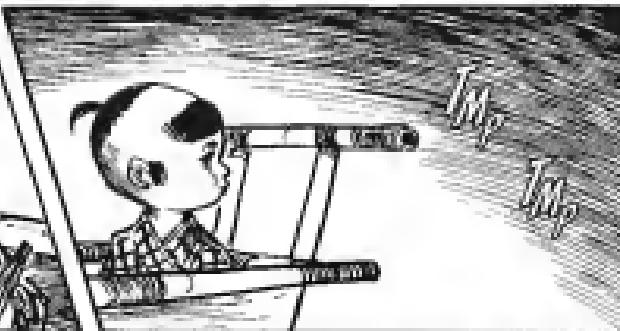
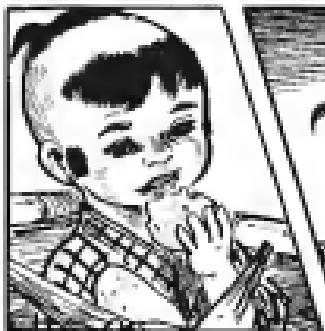




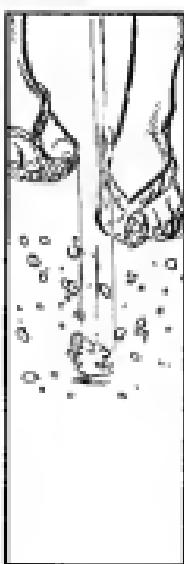
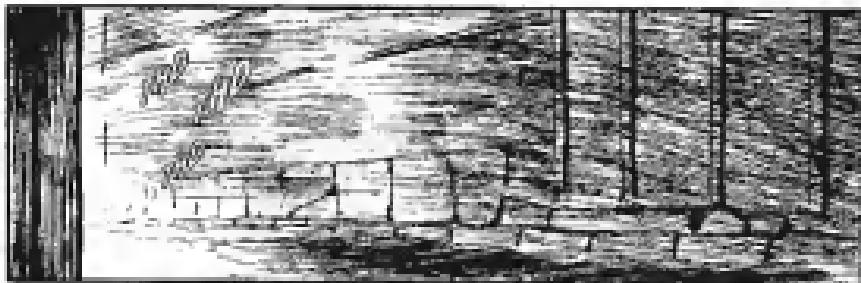


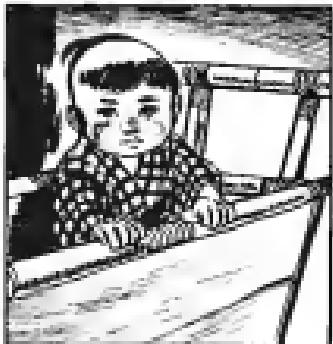


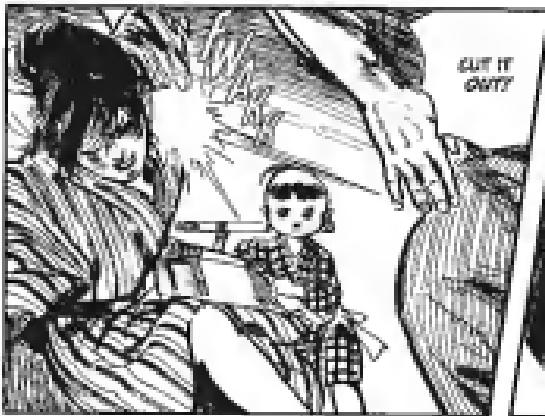






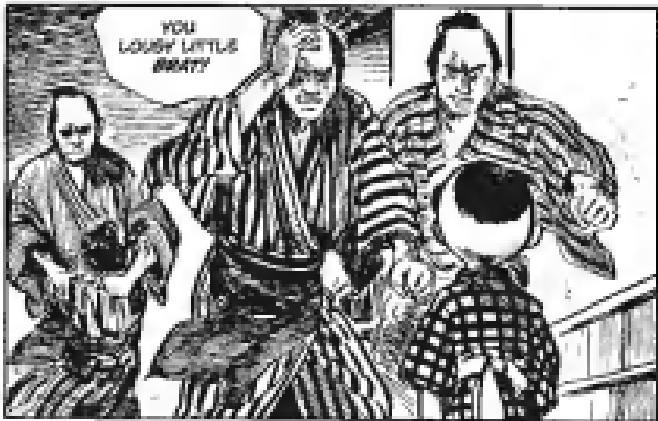


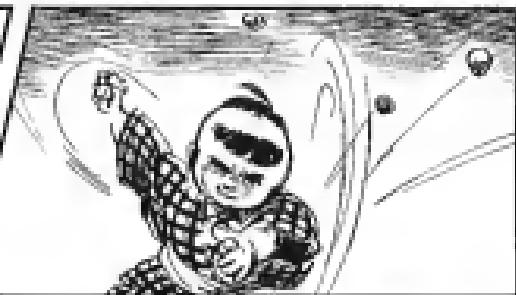


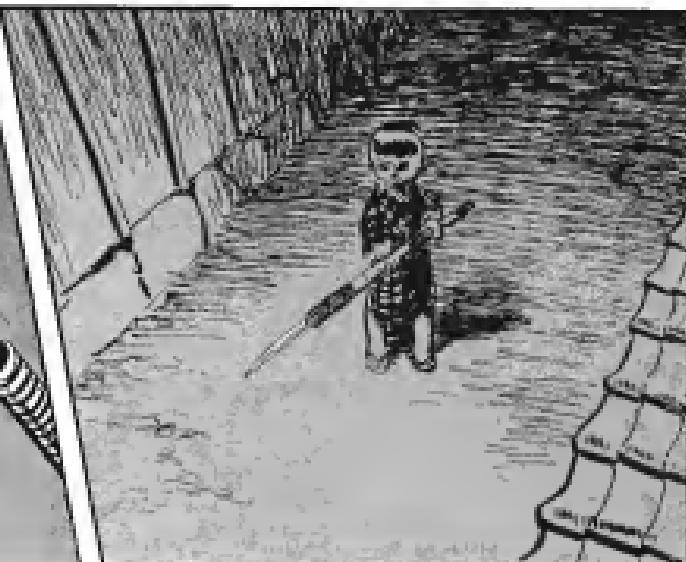
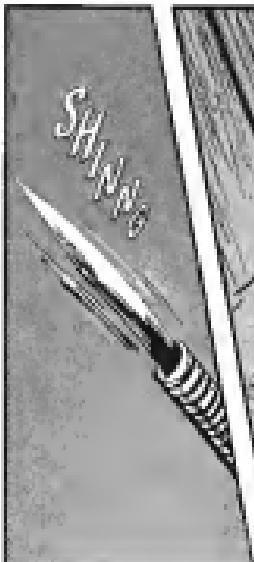


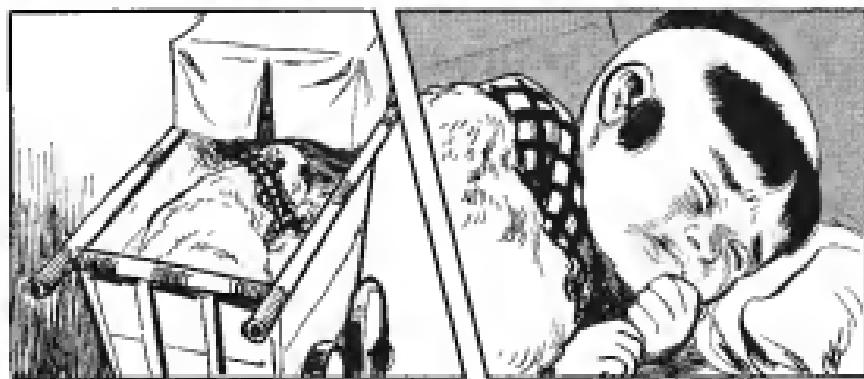


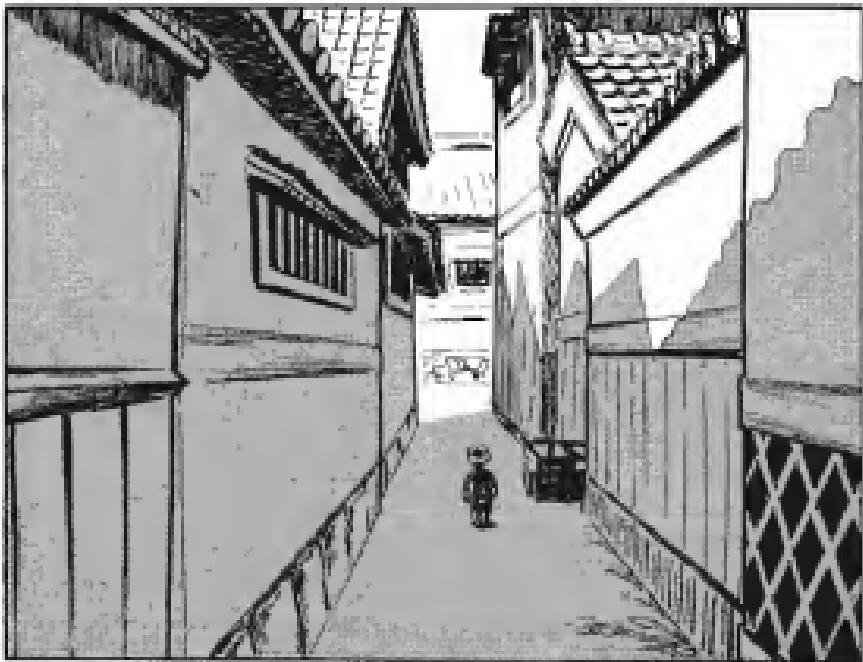


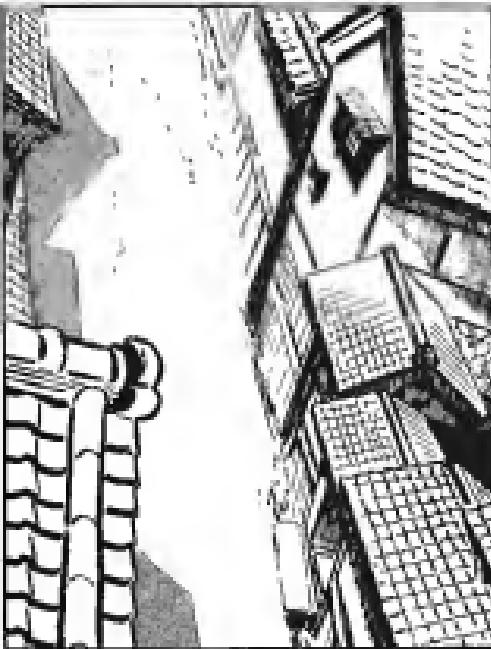
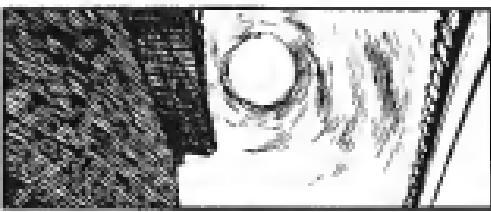
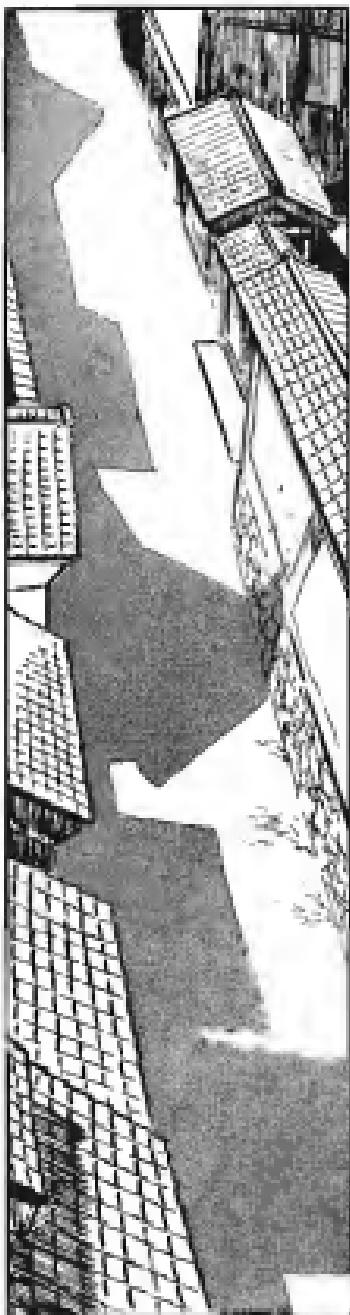


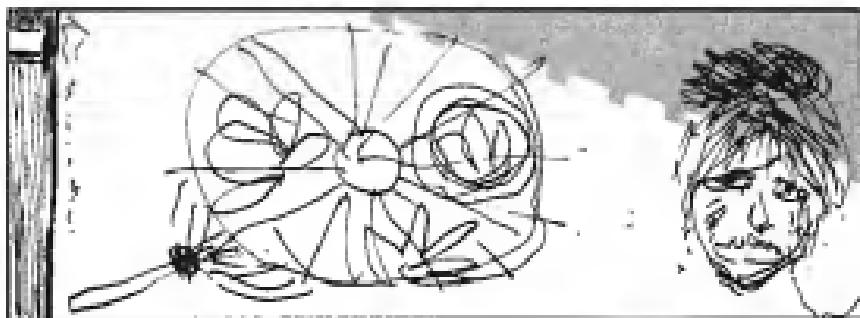


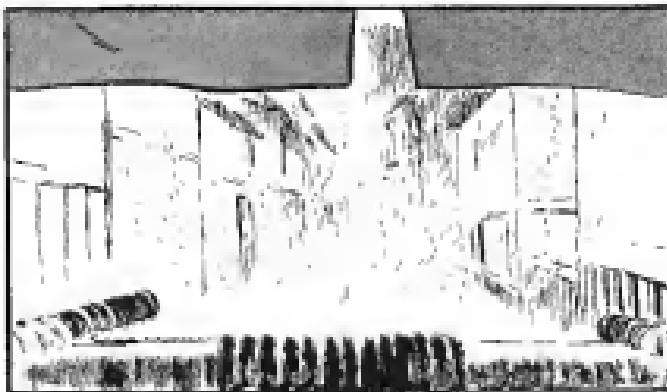
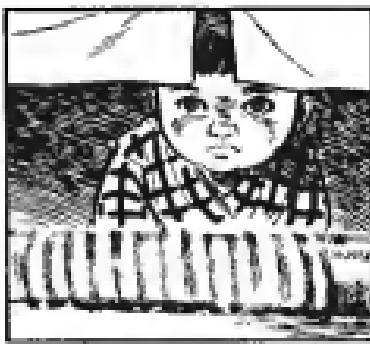
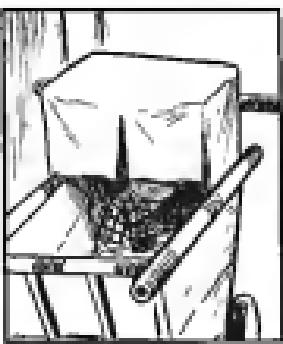
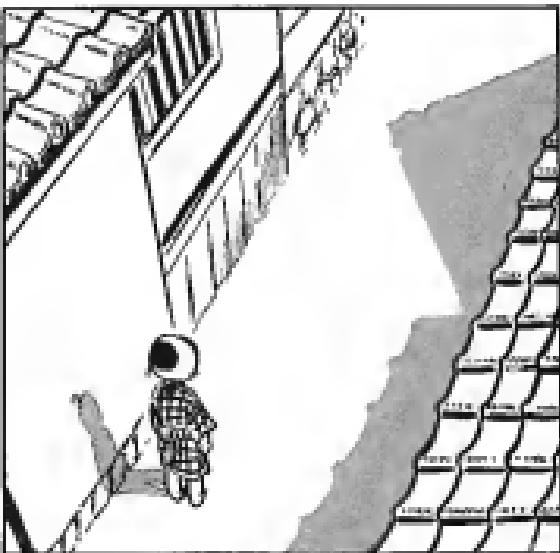


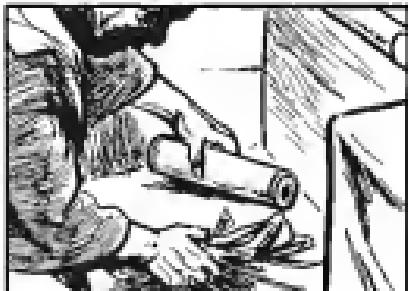


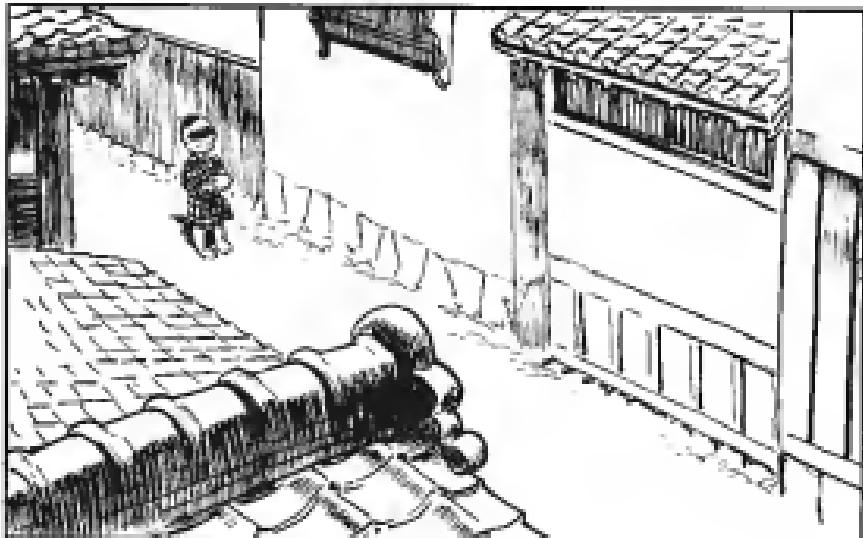
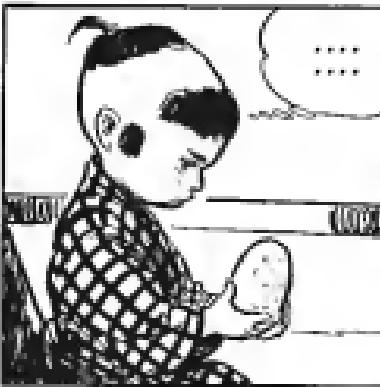


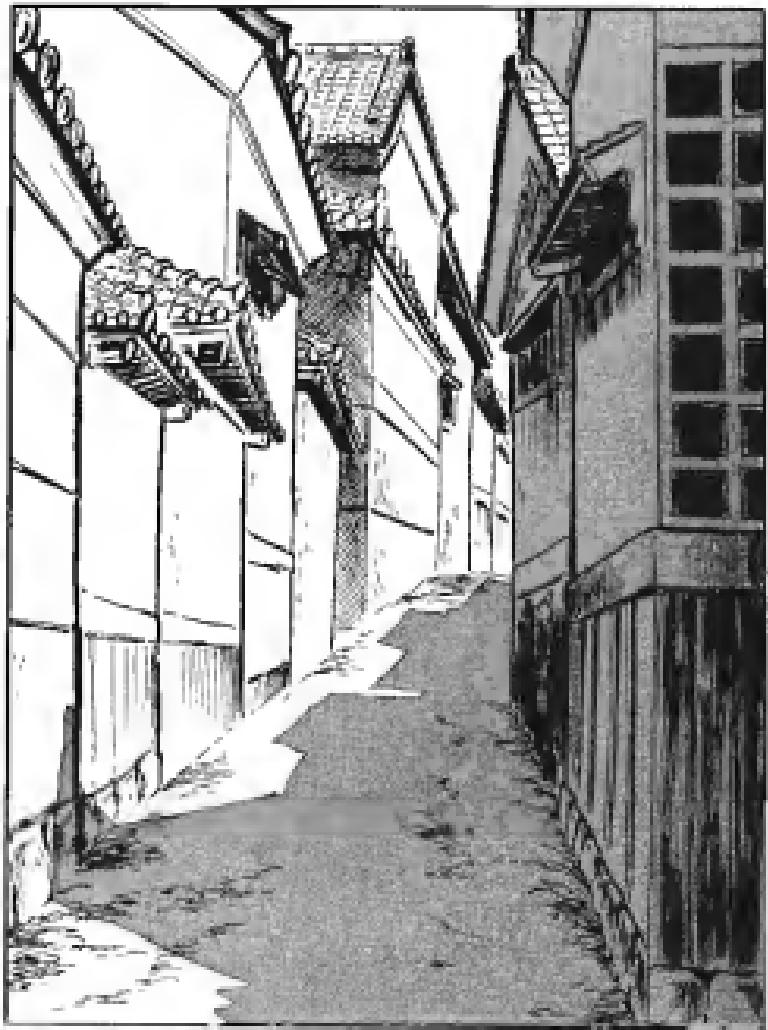


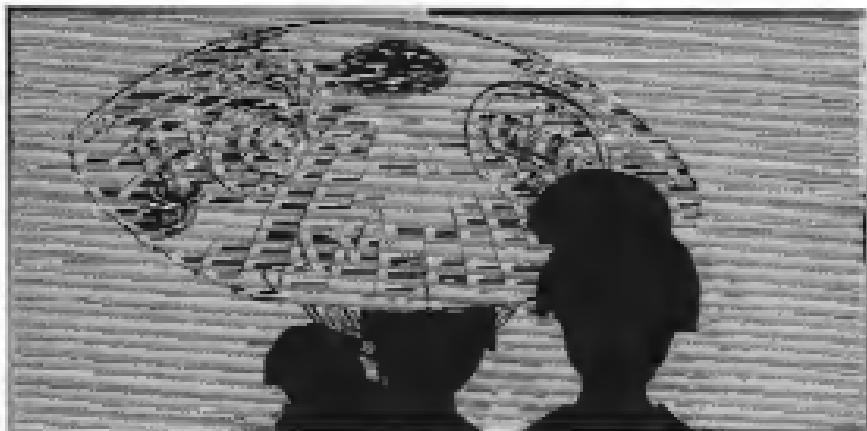
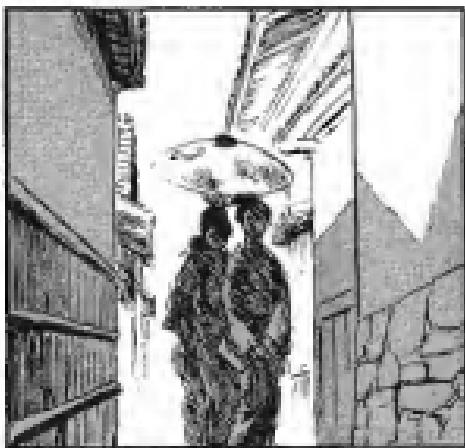








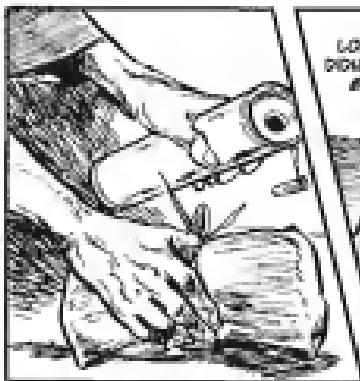


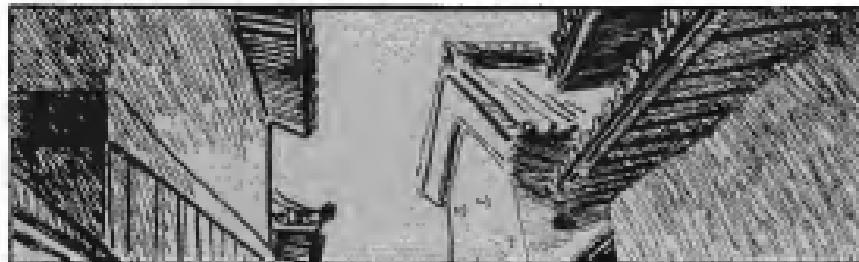
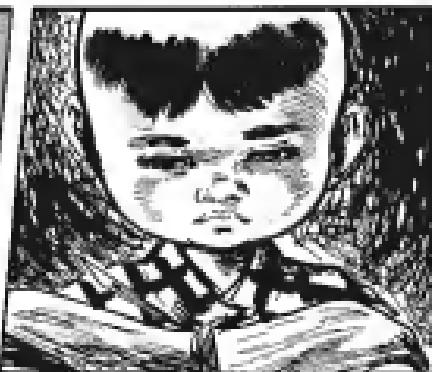
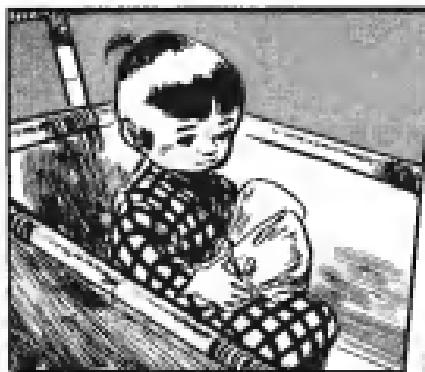


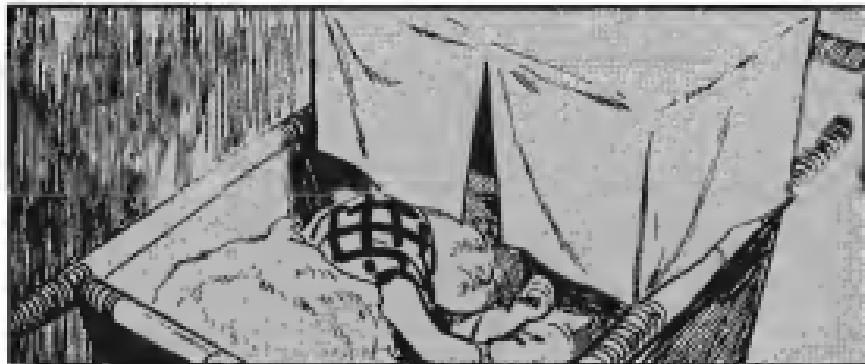


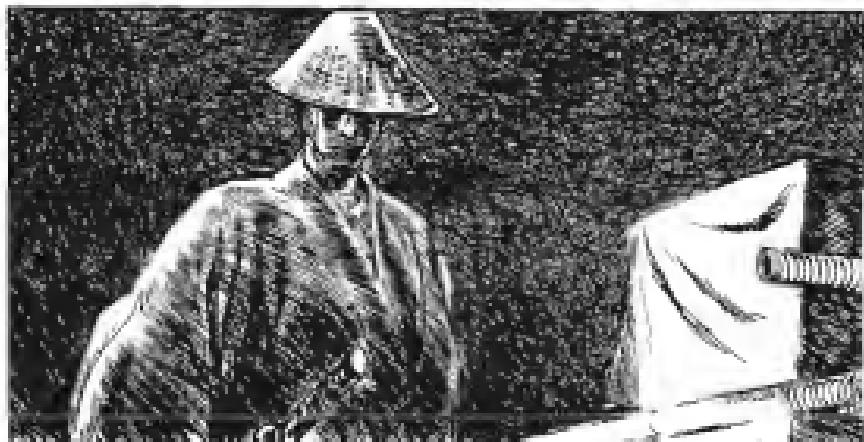






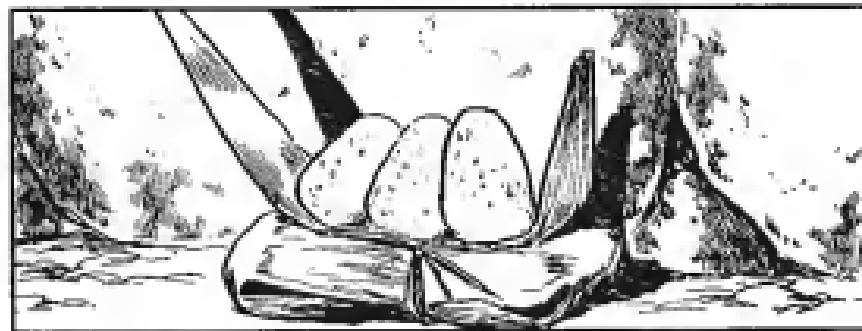
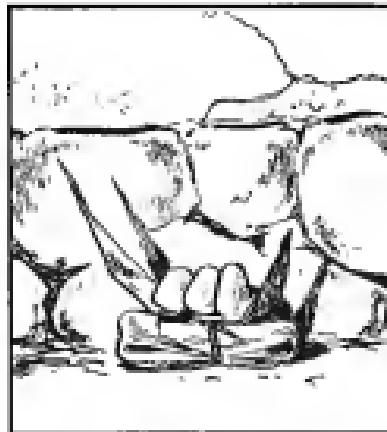
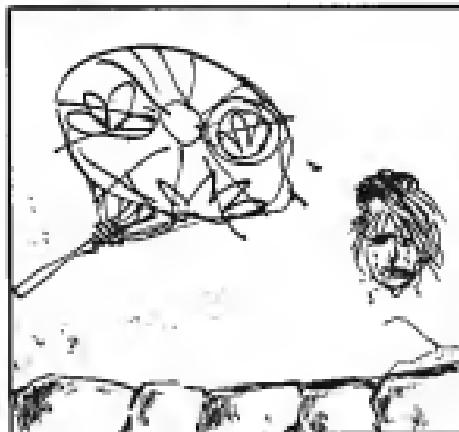
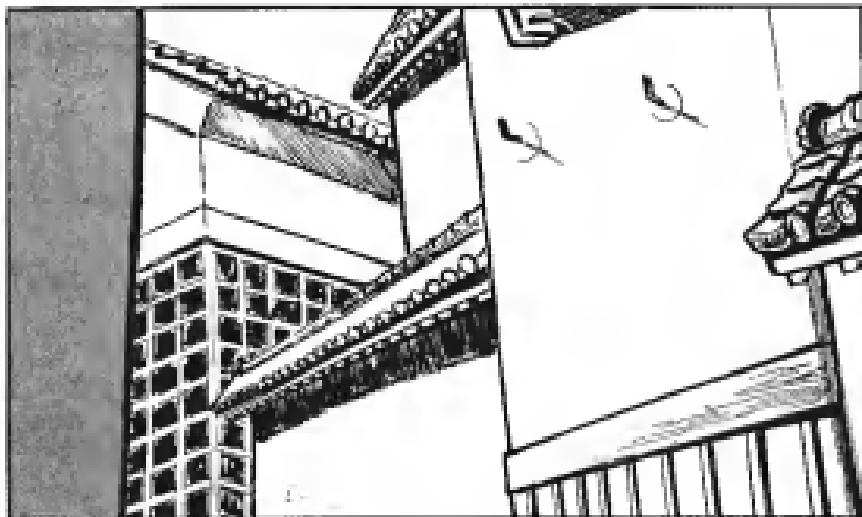


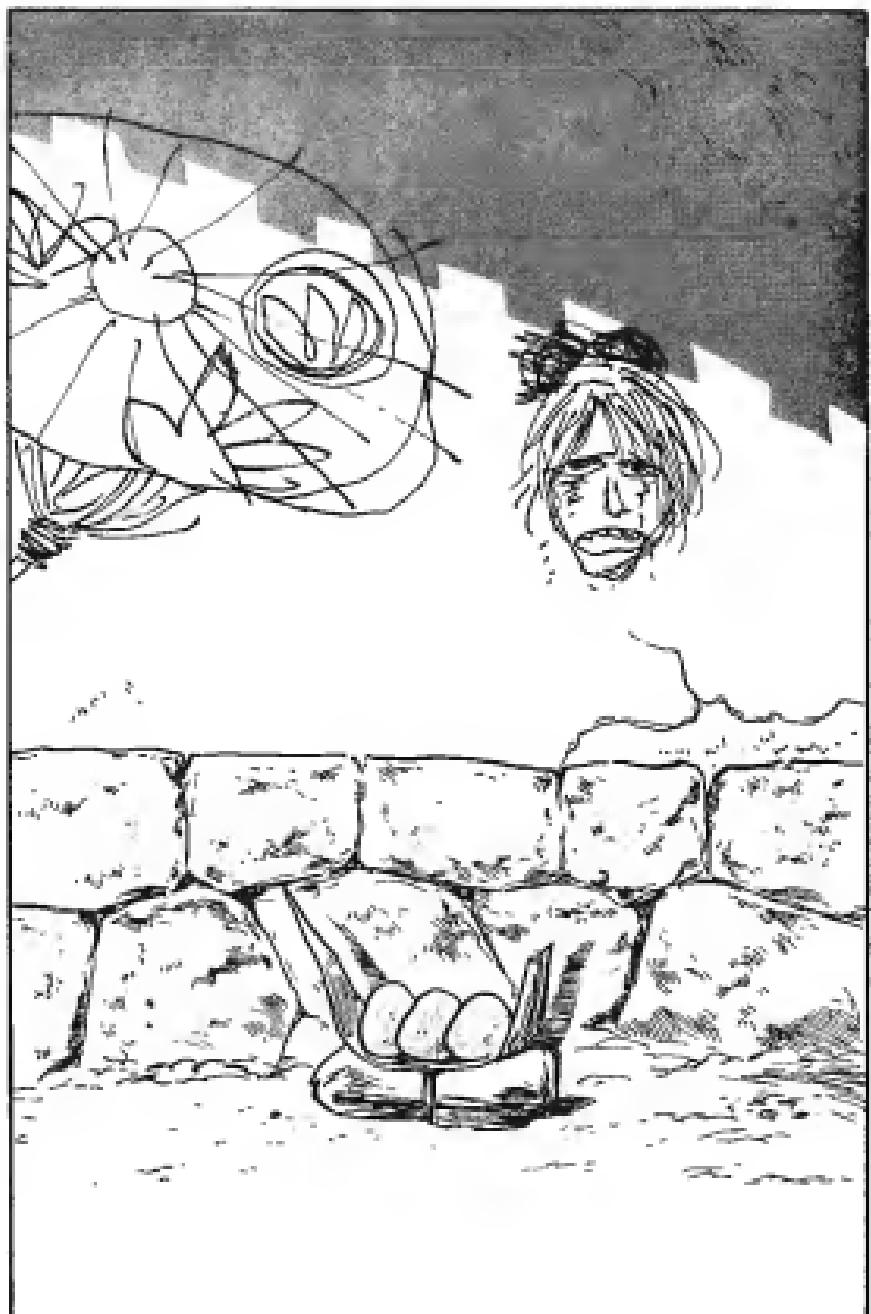










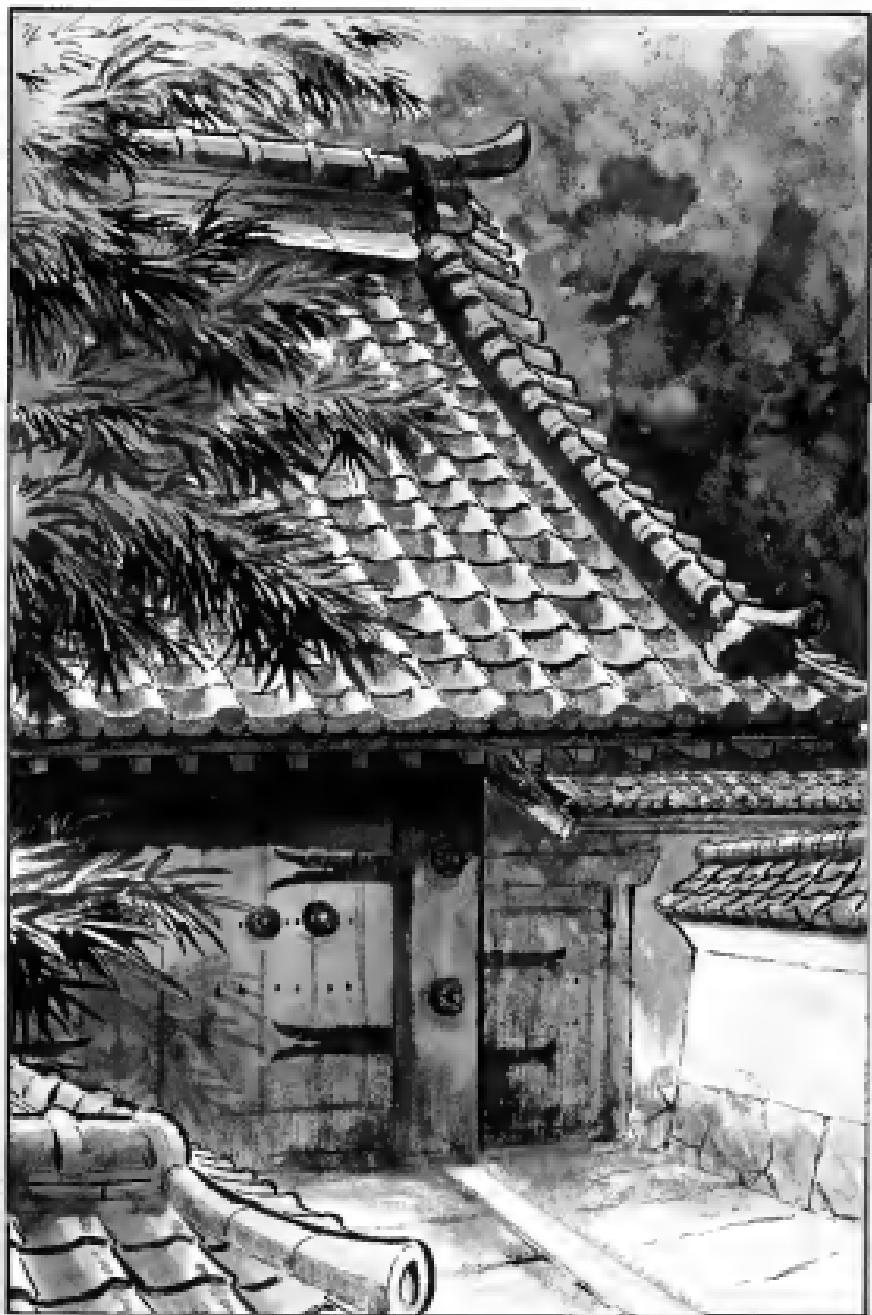




the seventy-ninth

# Sayaka



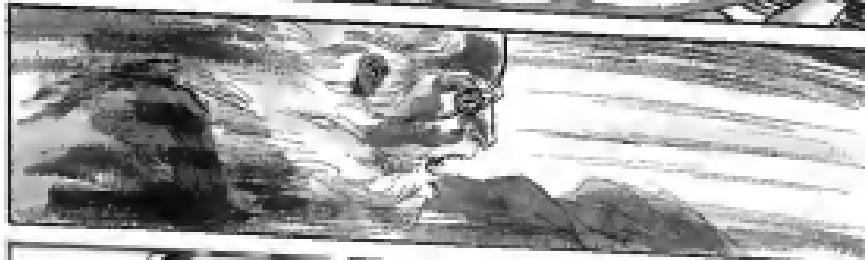




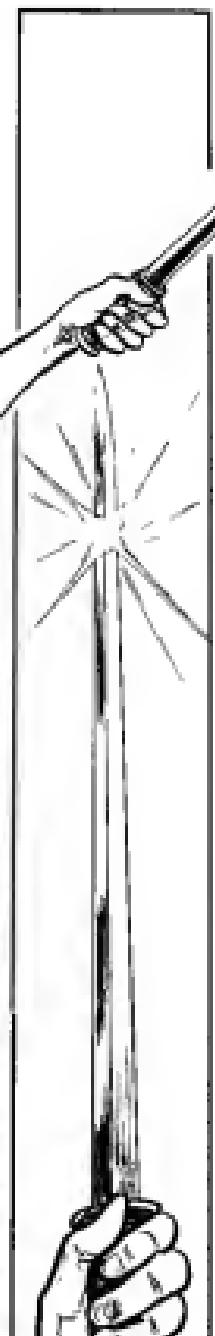


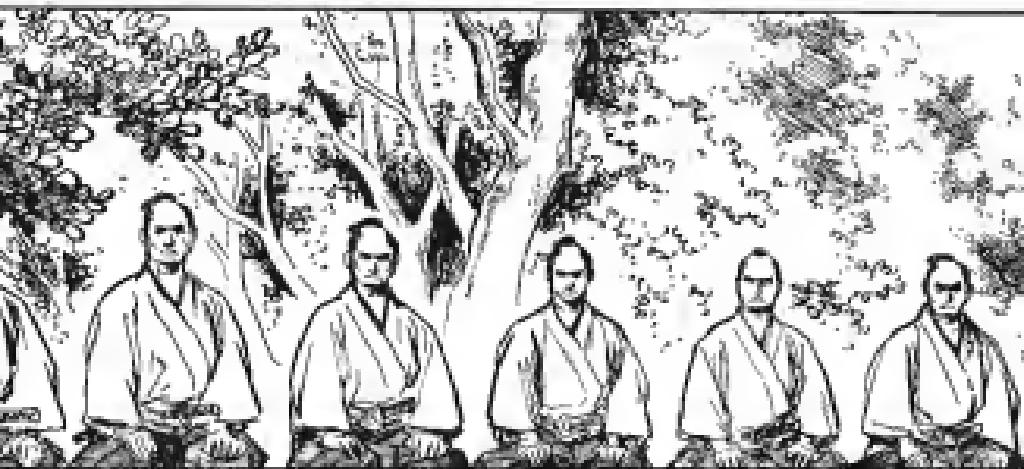


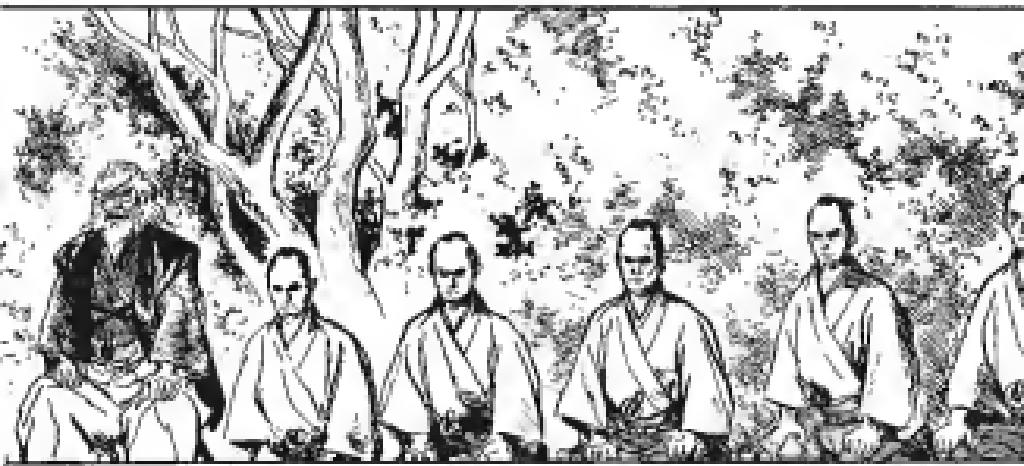




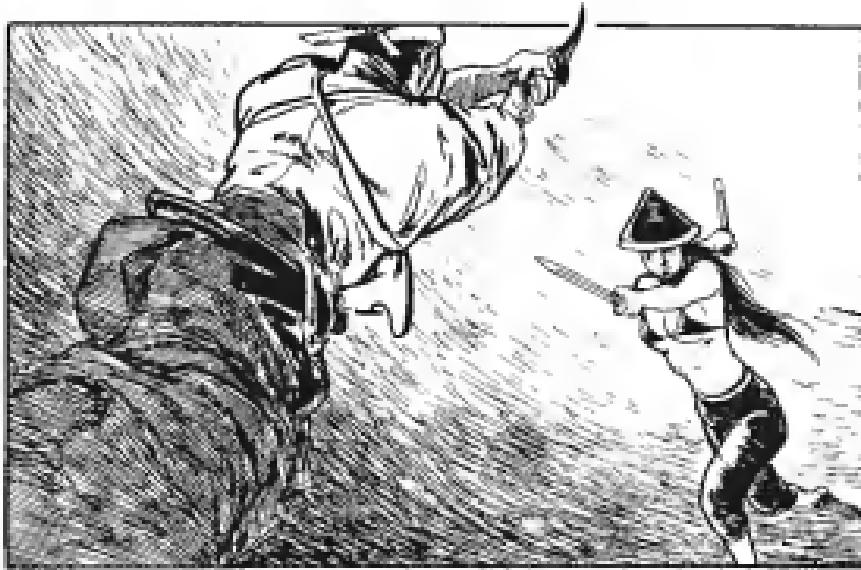






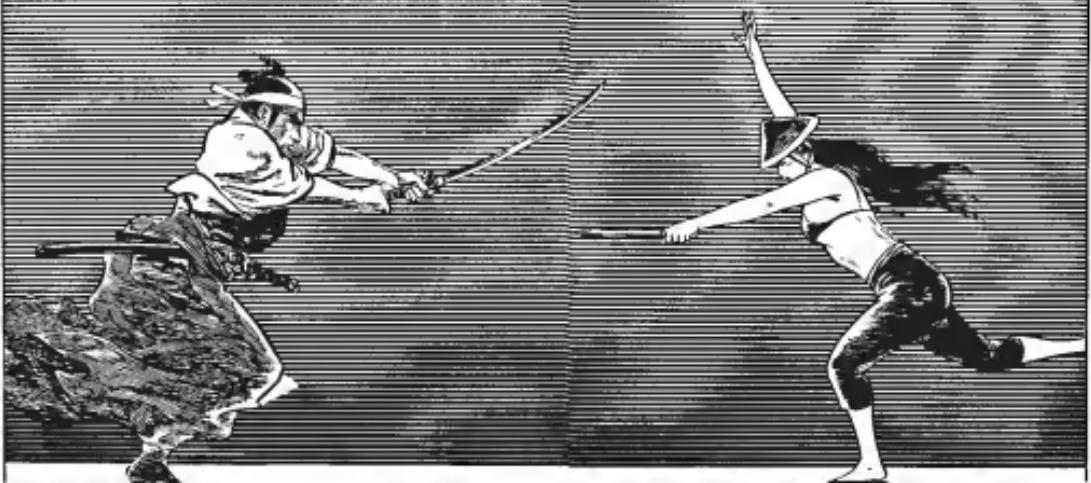


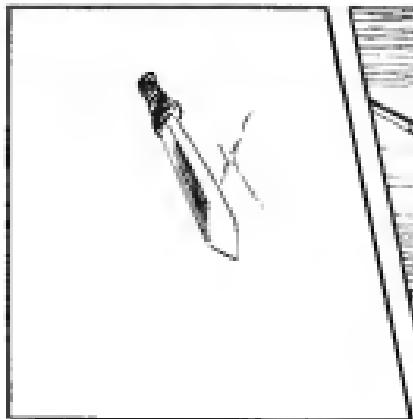
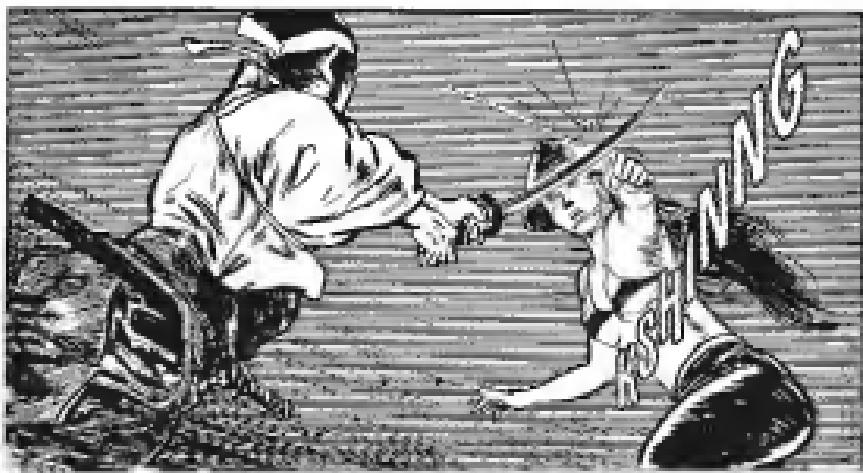




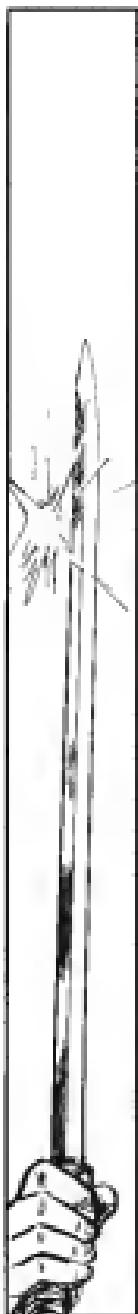


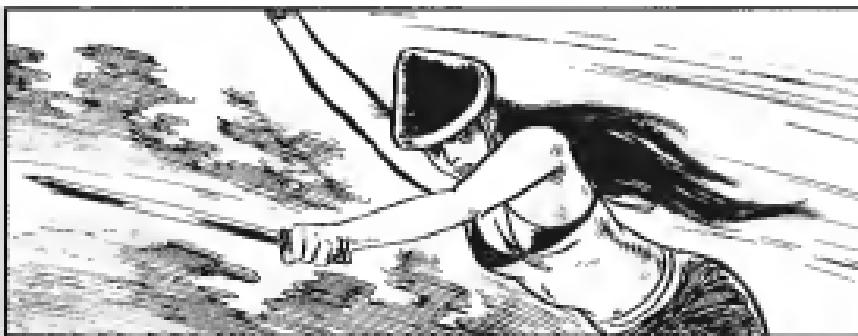
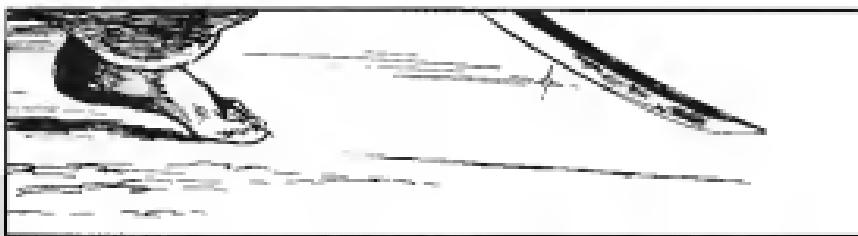
"IF HE DEFLECTS  
THE WARRIOR'S C-7200A4  
DANGER, SAVANA RUMS  
KIM THROUGH."

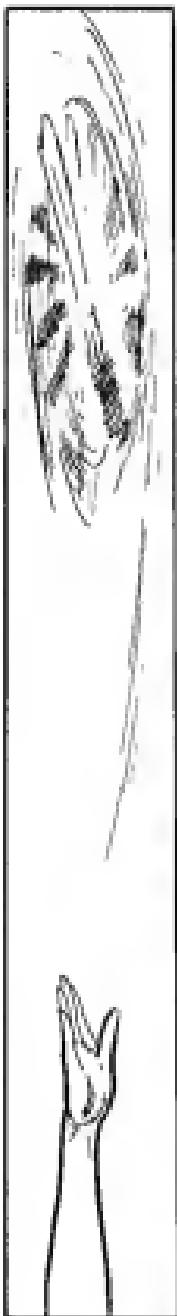






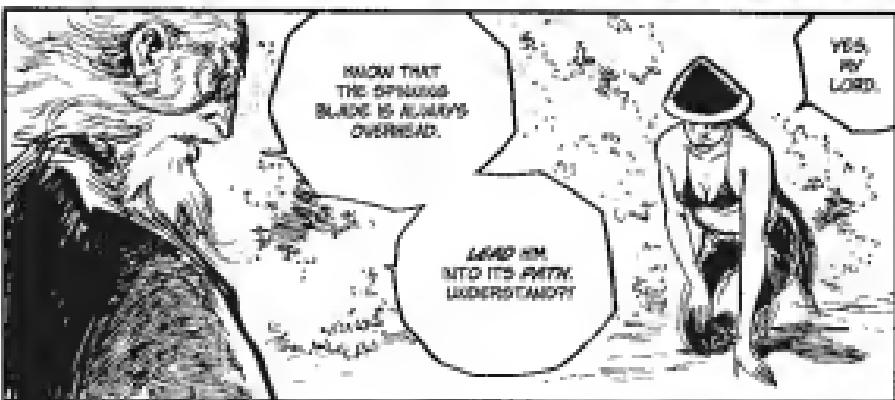










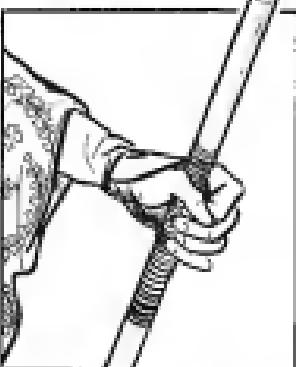




I WILL  
COMMAND THE  
DAMNED. MOBILIZE  
THE OFFICERS ON  
SHOKKANSHI LANDS.  
MOBILIZE THE ENTIRE  
NIGHT OF THE  
KAMIKO TO BURY  
THAT MAN.

YET IF WE  
CALL OUT ARMS  
TO KILL A SINGLE  
MAN, THE FAMOUS  
NAME WILL BE  
BLACKENED FOR  
ALL TIME.



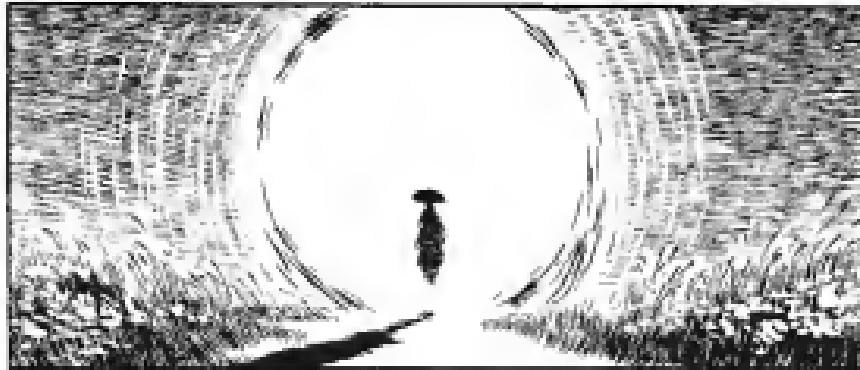
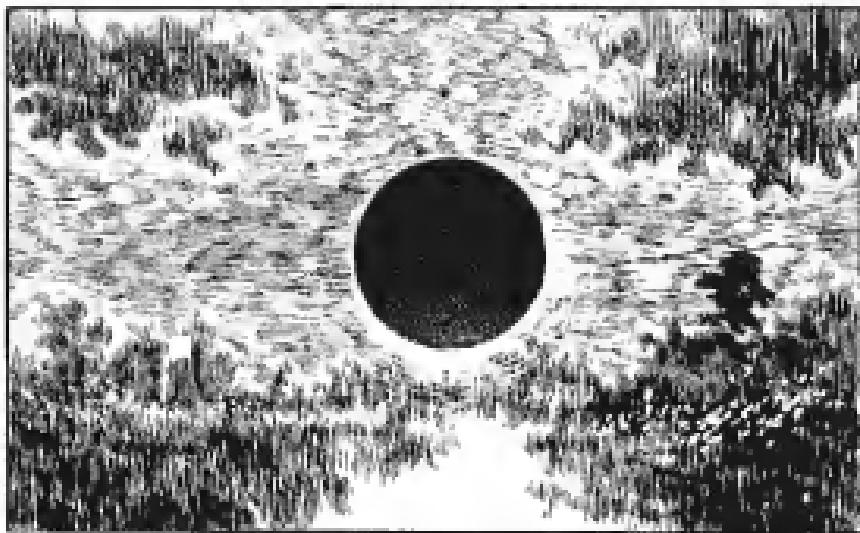




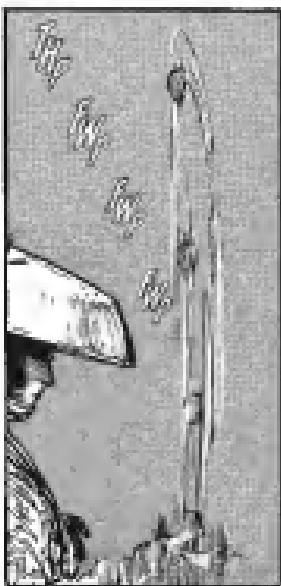
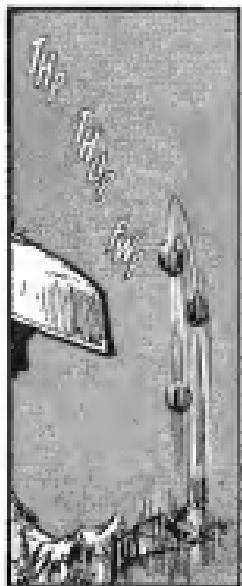
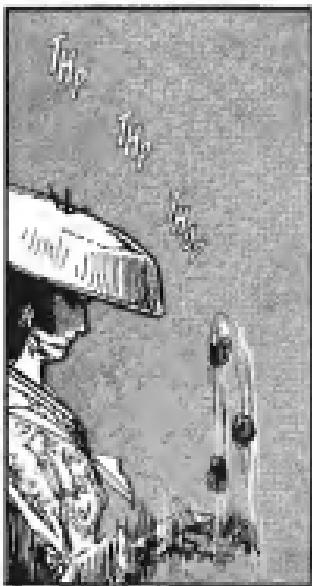


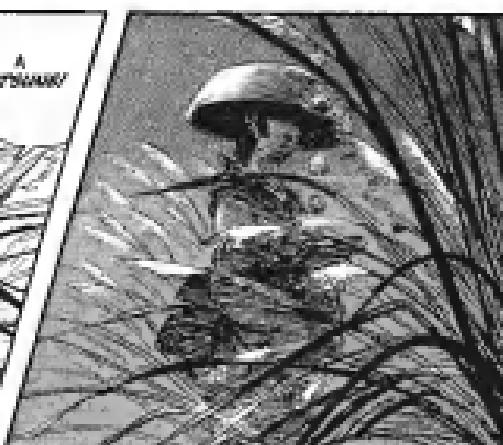




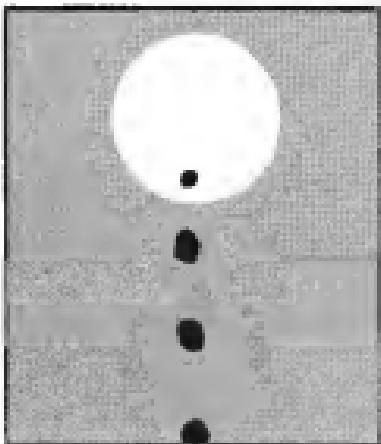


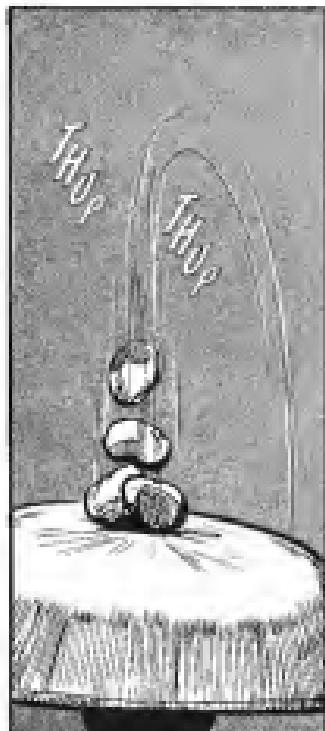
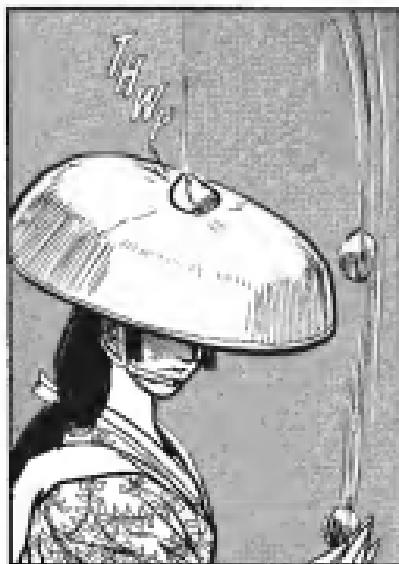
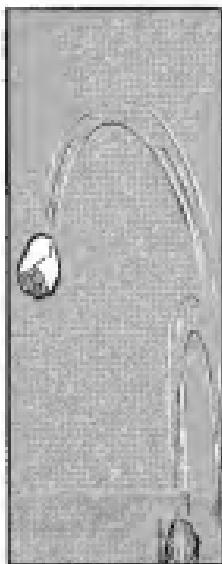
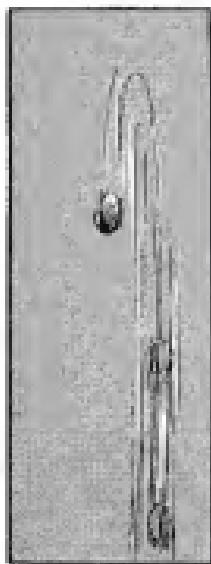


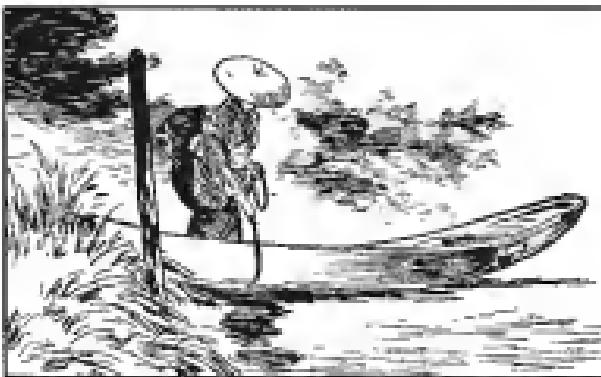
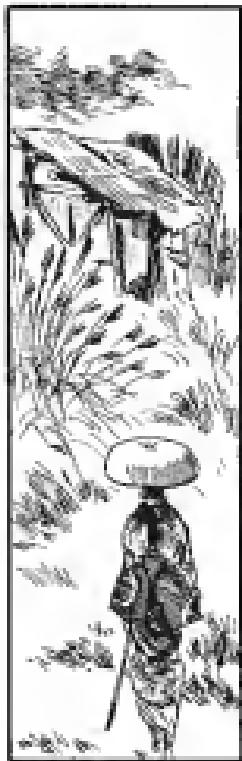


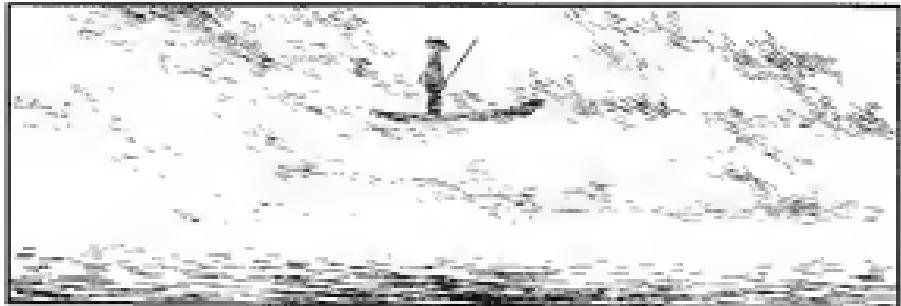
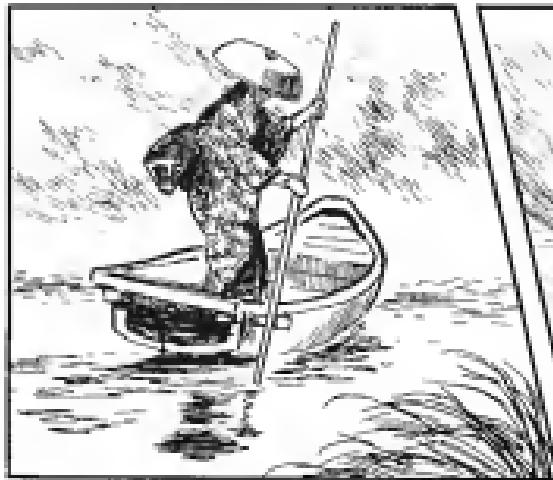


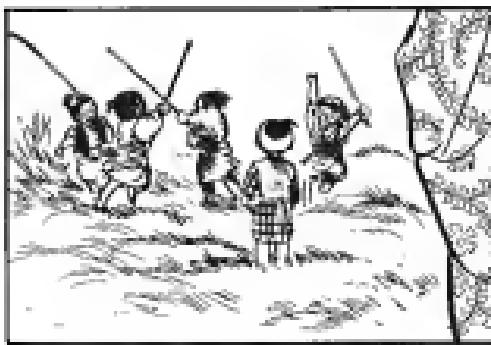
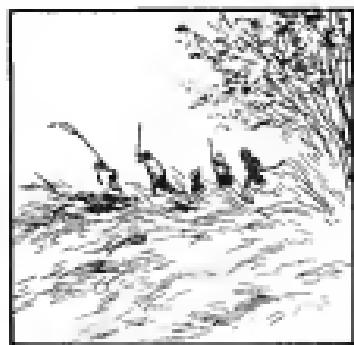
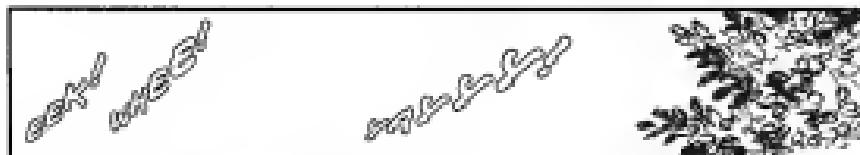
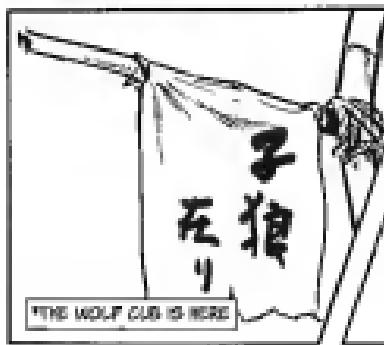
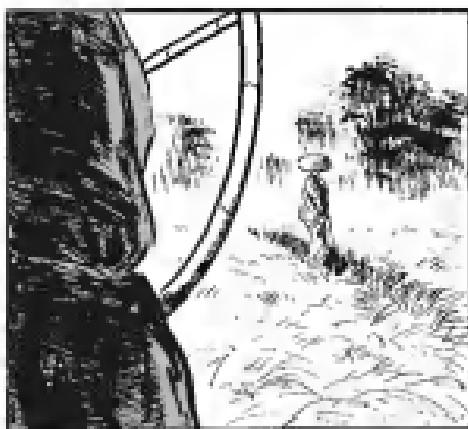




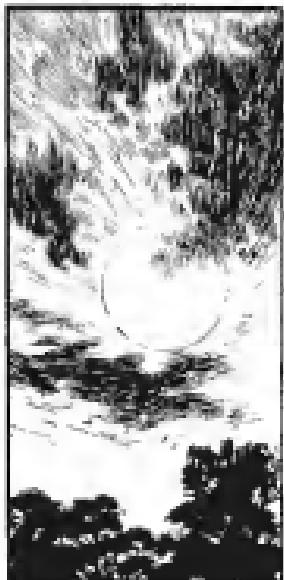
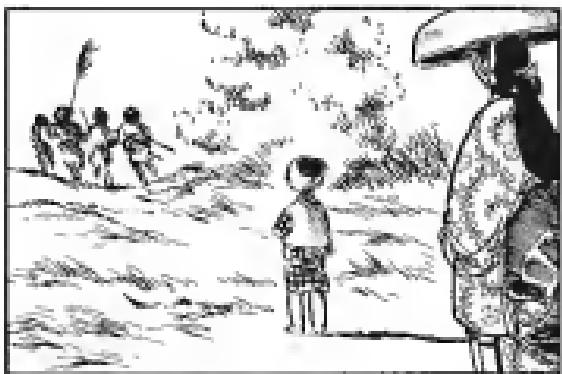


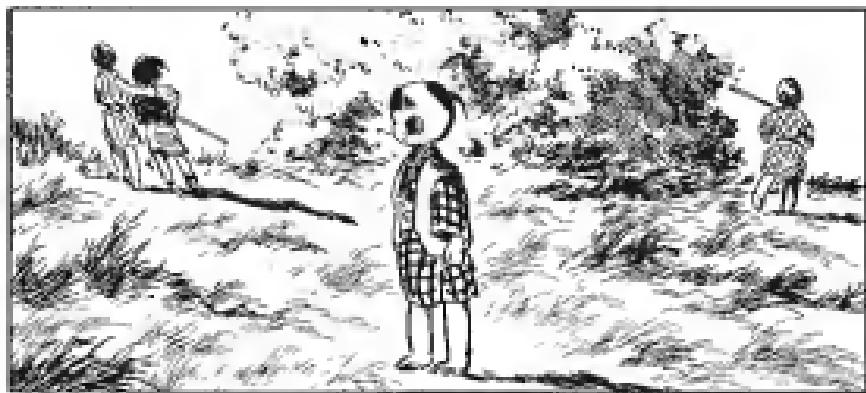


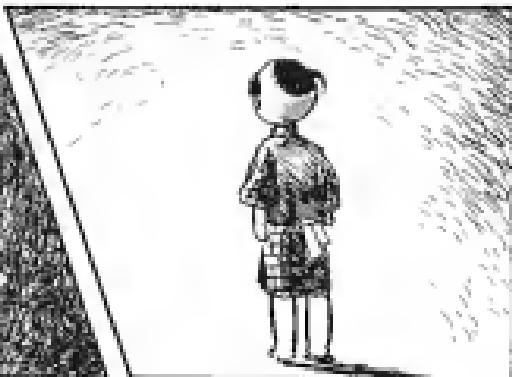
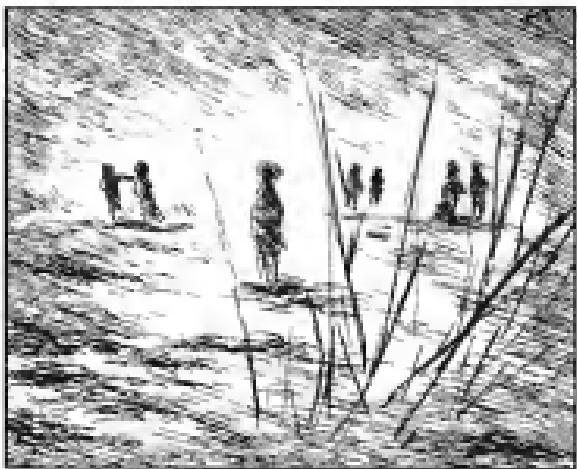


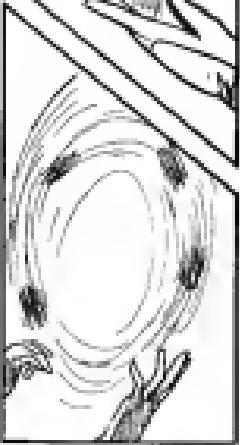
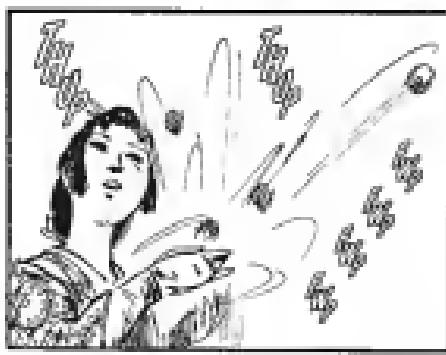
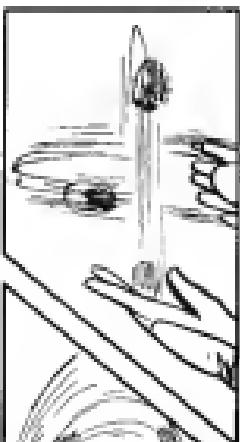
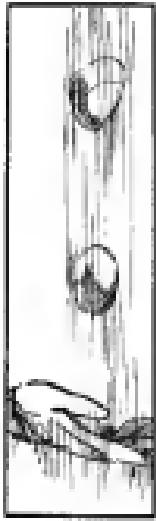






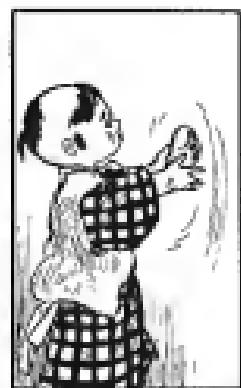


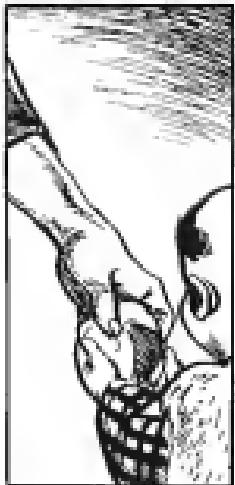


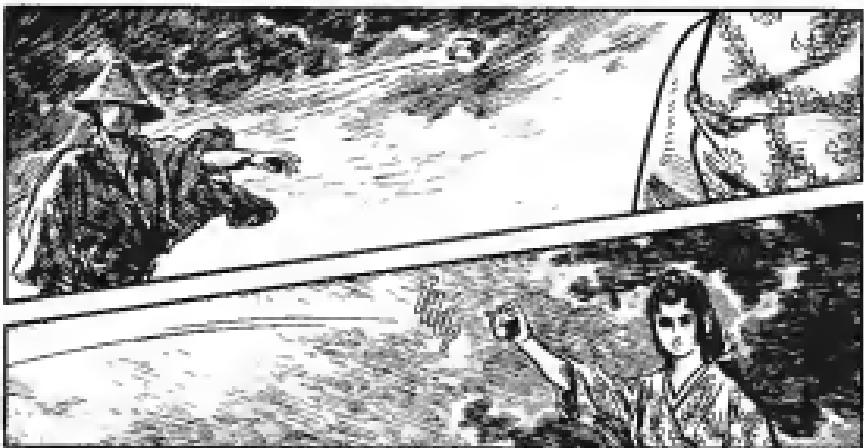


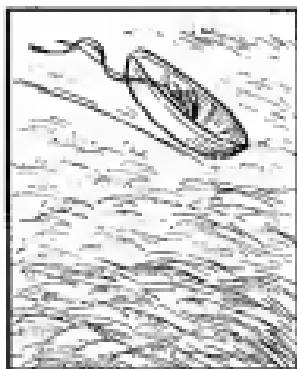


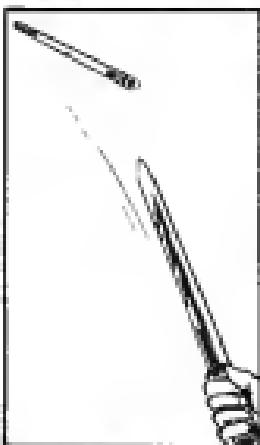




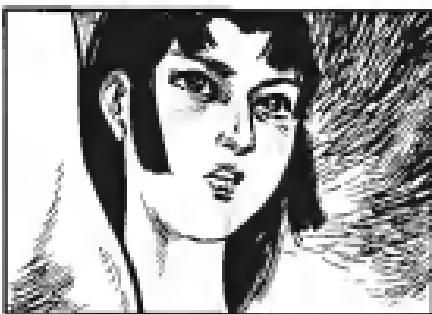


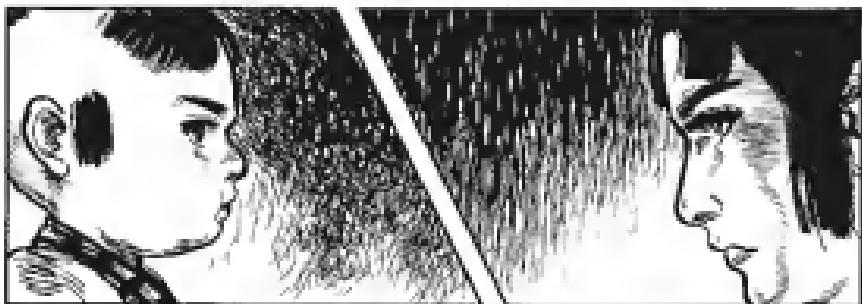


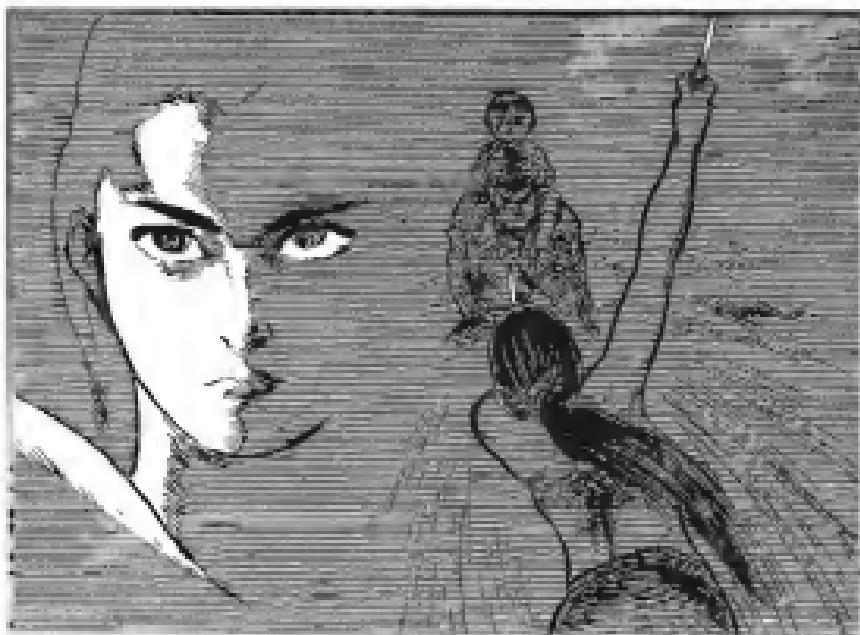


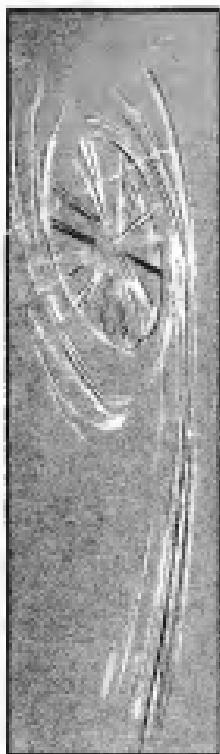


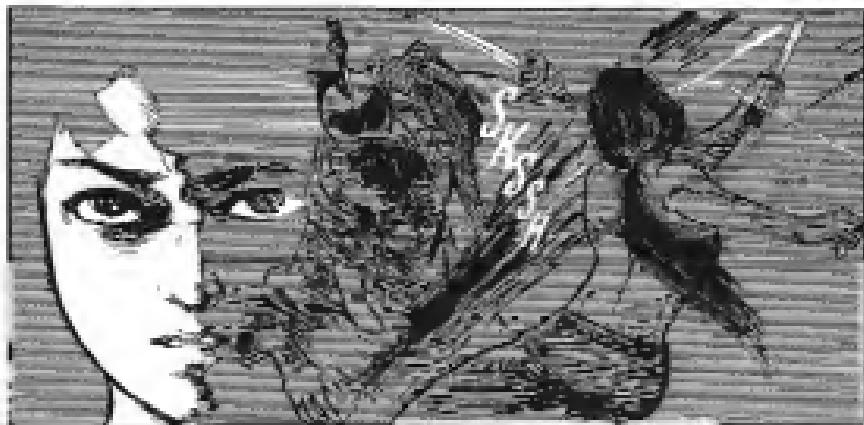


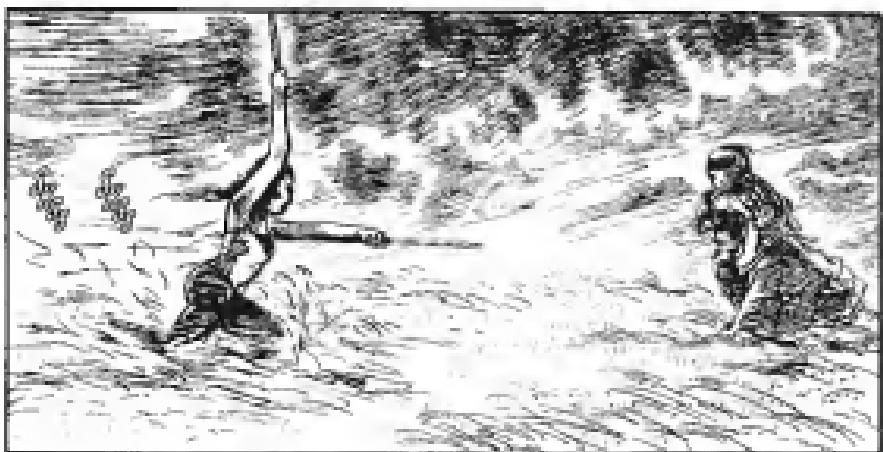


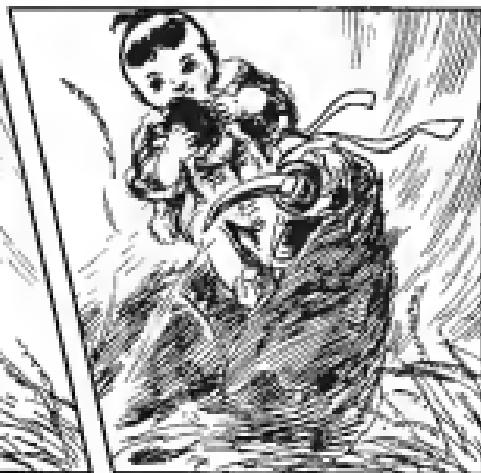


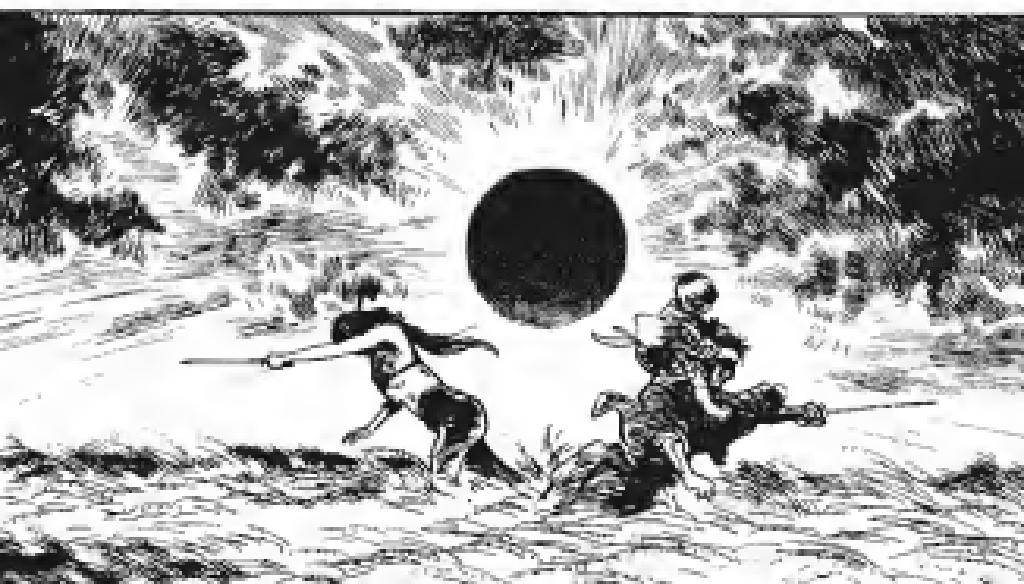
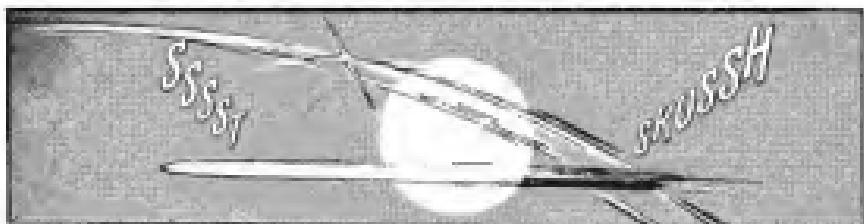


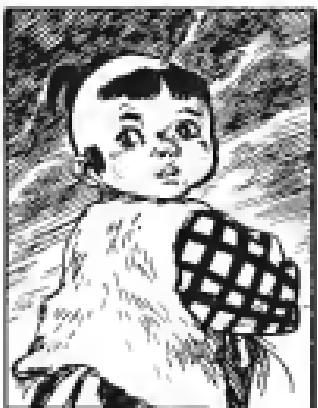
















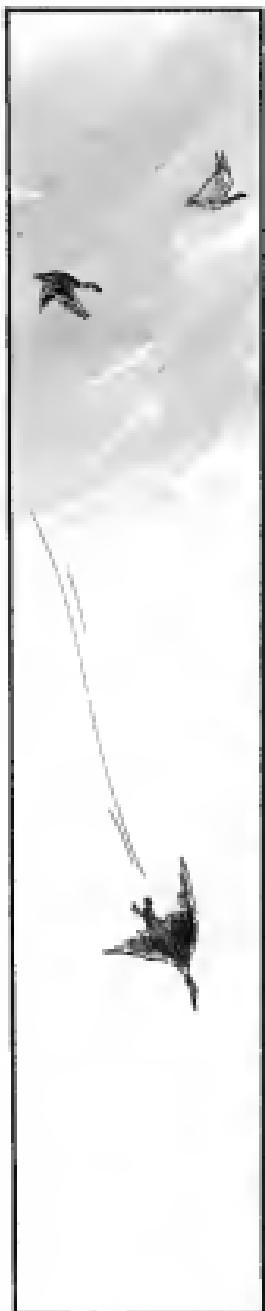


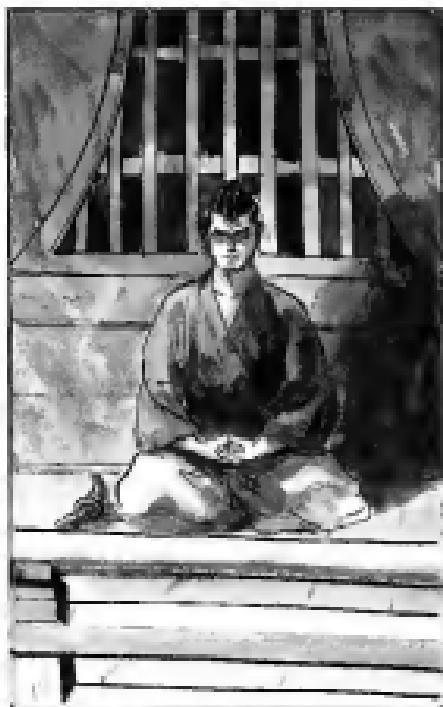
the eightieth

# Clouds of Silk



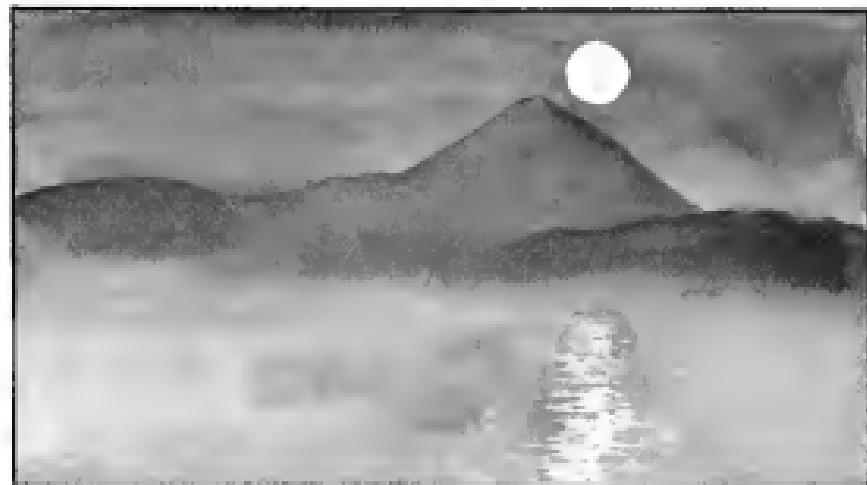


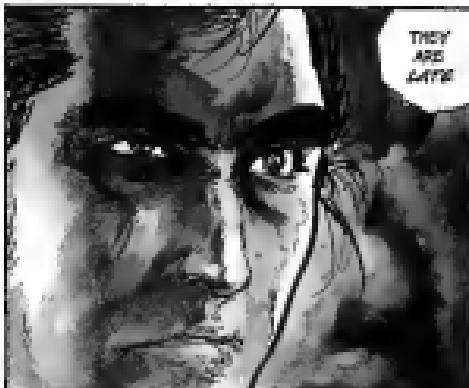
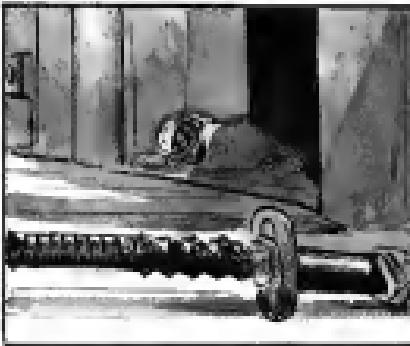
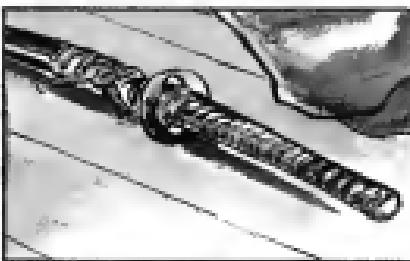




KATATA, ON  
THE SHORES  
OF LAKE BIWA

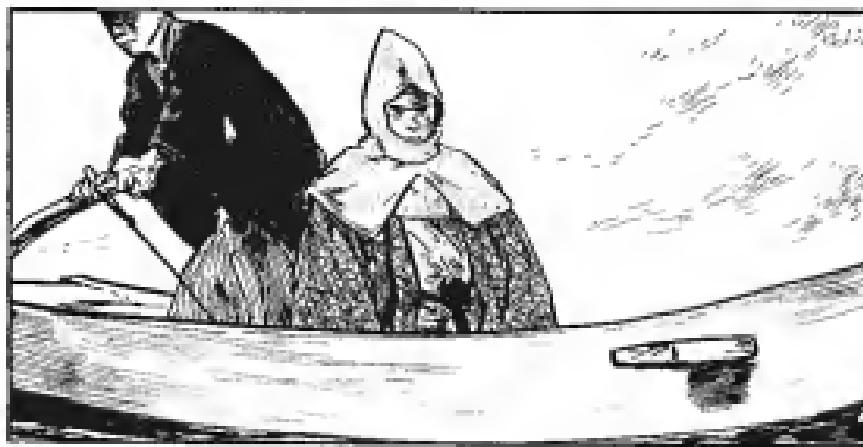


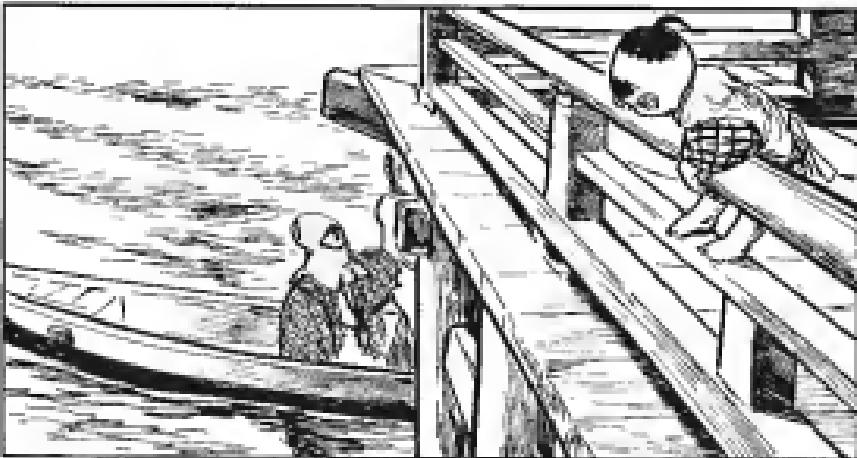
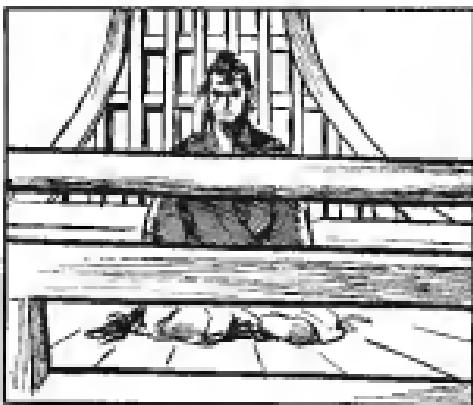


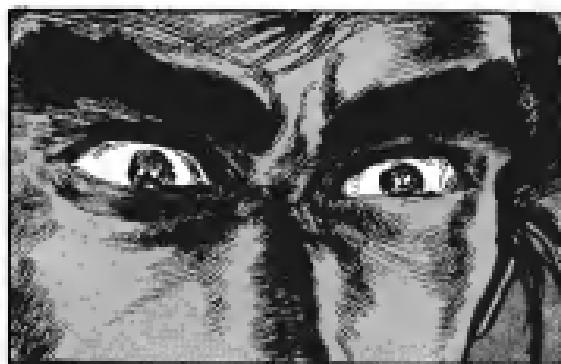
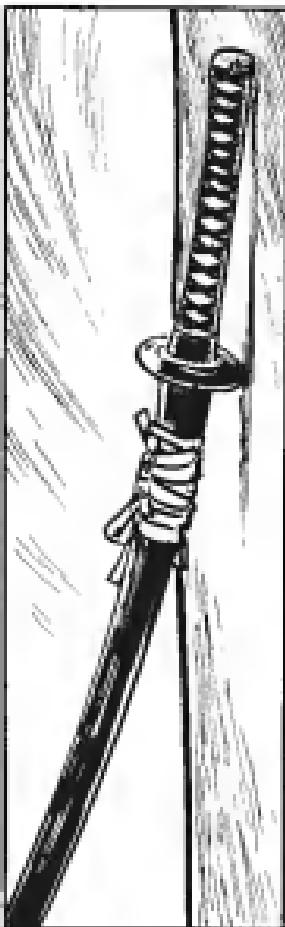


















OF COURSE  
WE KNOW ABOUT  
YOUR FUGI. WHEN  
WE HIRED YOU...  
BUT THINGS HAVE  
CHANGED.

WE HAVE  
PERN INTELLIGENCE  
THAT THE KABUTO  
IS LAUNCHING AN  
ALL-OUT CAMPAIGN  
AGAINST YOU.

THEY'LL BE TELLING  
THE ENTIRE NATION  
TO KNOW THAT YOU'RE  
A WANTED CRIMINAL.  
SHAMPO AND DAKKAN  
COMMISSIONED TO  
ARREST YOU.

A HARBED  
KIDOM SHOULD  
REACH OUR  
HAND ANY DAY  
NOW!

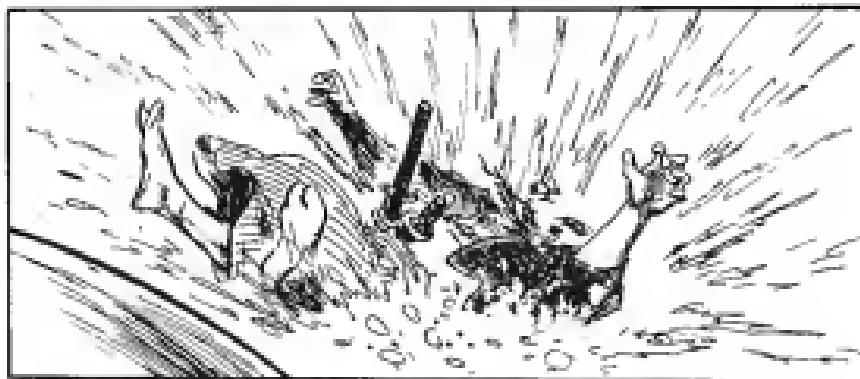


...NOT THE  
WANDERING ASSASSIN,  
BUT THE PURSUDED PREY.  
ADMITTEDLY, THINKING  
ONLY OF FLINGING...  
EVEN FROM OUR HAND.  
IF THE KABUTO COMMANDS,  
WE SHAME NOT  
HIRE YOU!

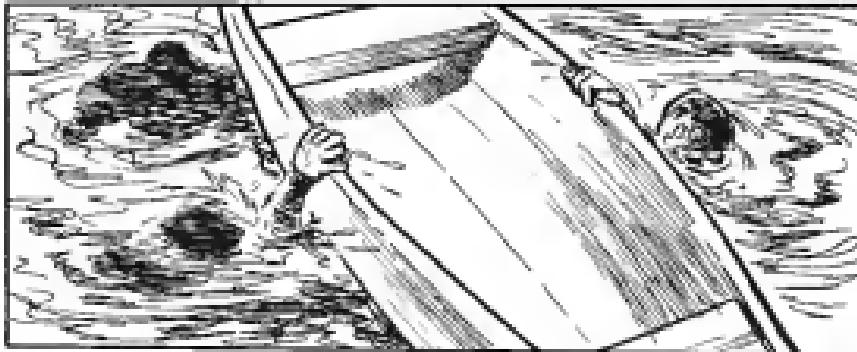


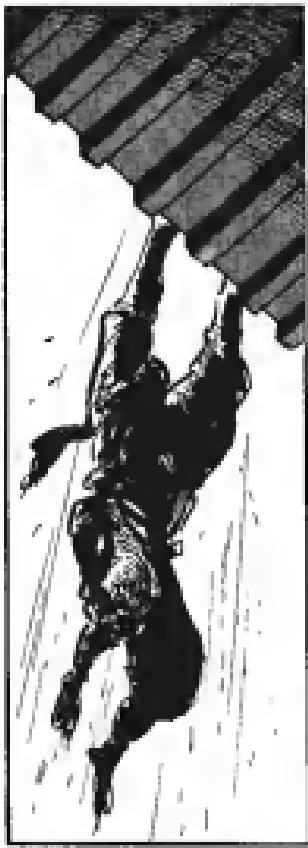


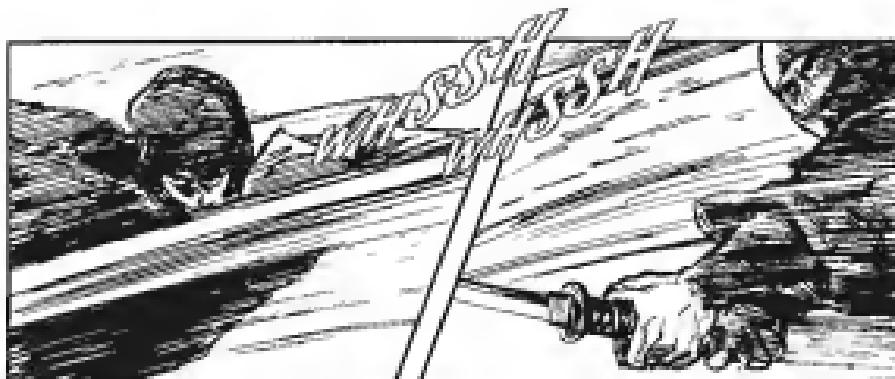




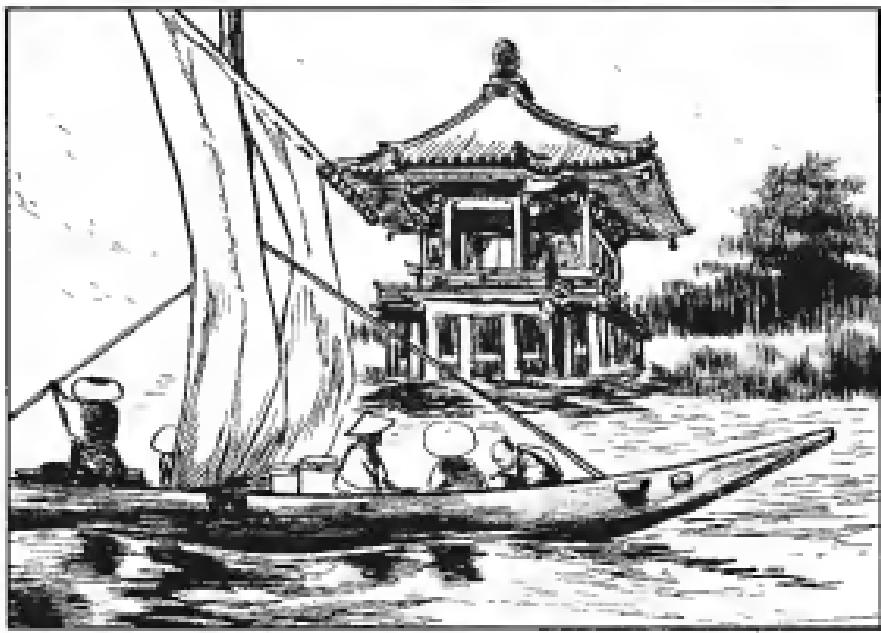
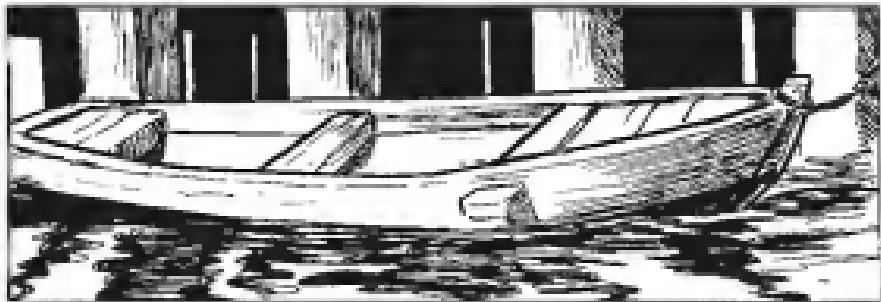


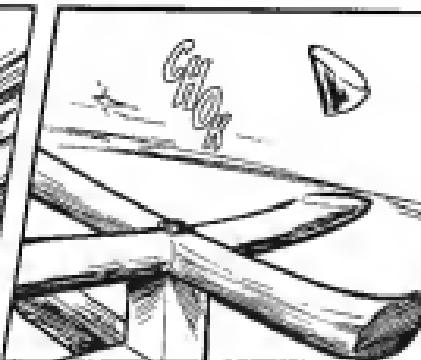
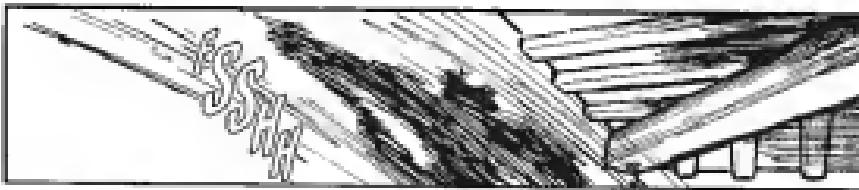












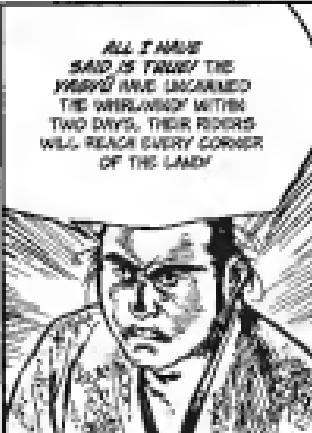








THIS I TELL YOU, AS THE LAST ACCOMPLISHMENT...



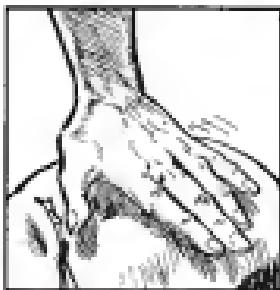
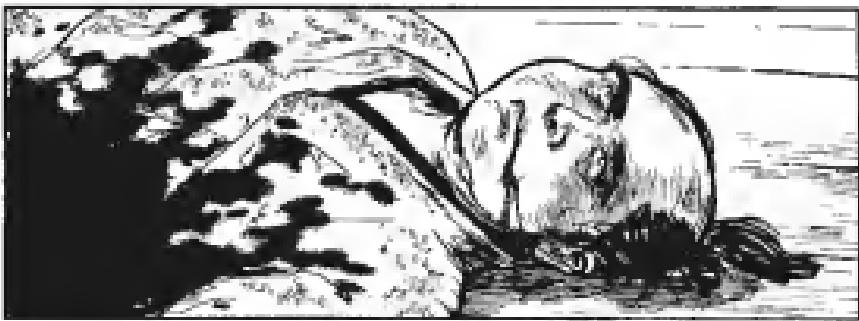


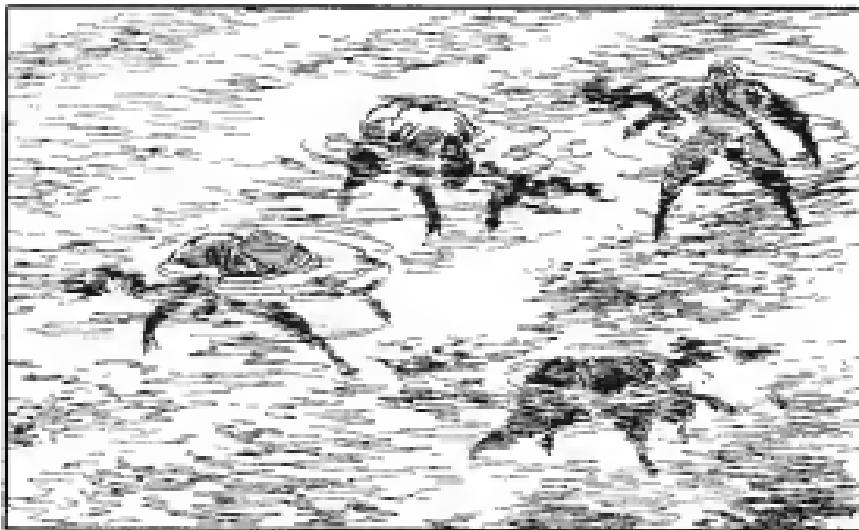
AS THE LAST  
OF OUR CLAN  
I AM NOT...  
SHOULD PEOPLE  
HEAR IT COME FROM  
OUR LIPS...









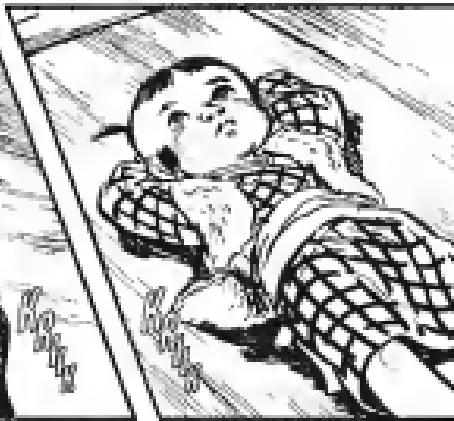
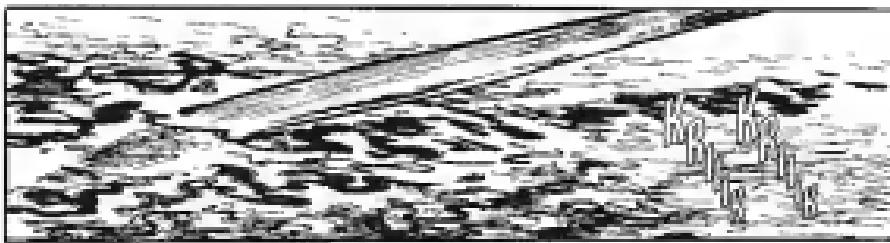






LAKE BIWA,  
LARGEST IN JAPAN.  
DRAW A LINE FROM  
KATADA TO KOBANA ON  
THE OPPOSITE SHORE—  
TO THE NORTH,  
MOUNTAIN BIWA  
TO THE SOUTH,  
LESSER BIWA.



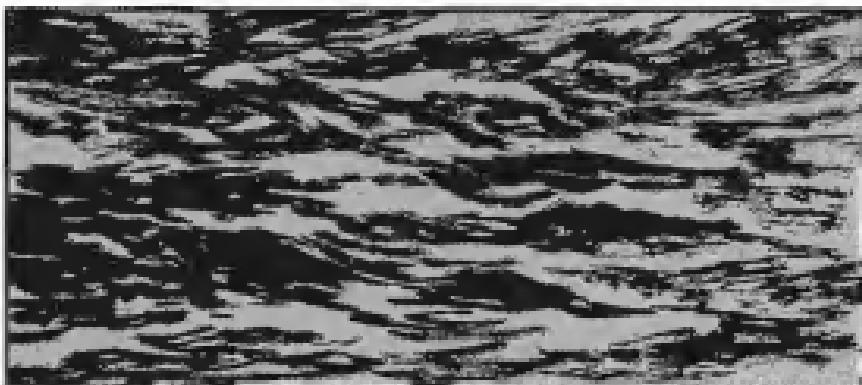
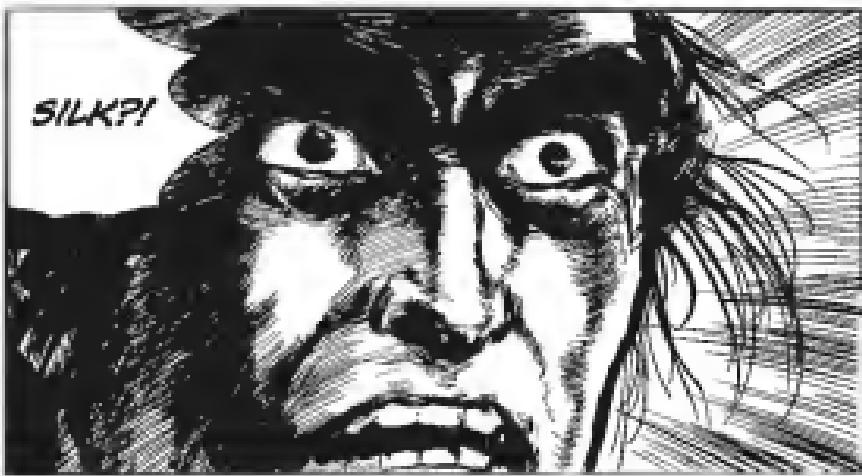


THE EVENING BELL OF  
THE ISHIMAWA AKATSUKI,  
THE LANDKIN-DOSES AT KUTATA,  
THE MOST EXQUISITE OF  
THE ASHIMAKI AMAKAKI,  
THE EIGHT VIEWS OF EMA.

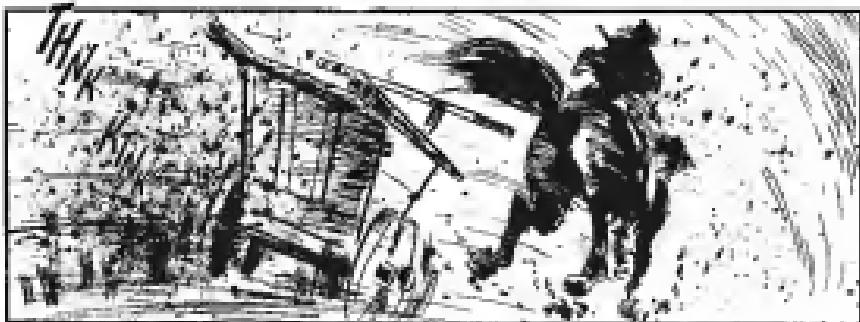
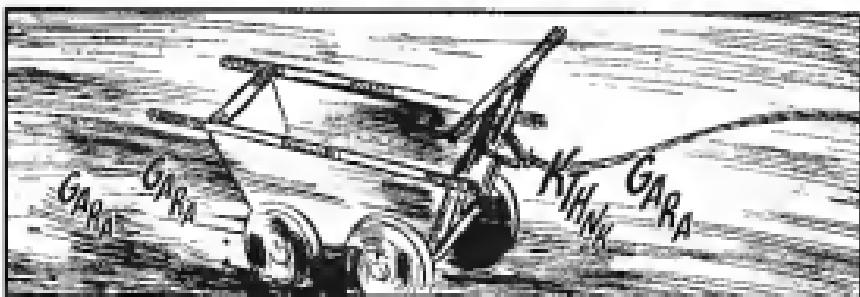


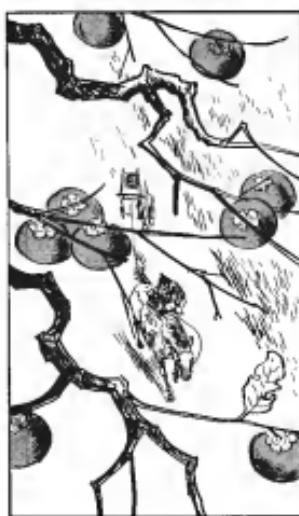








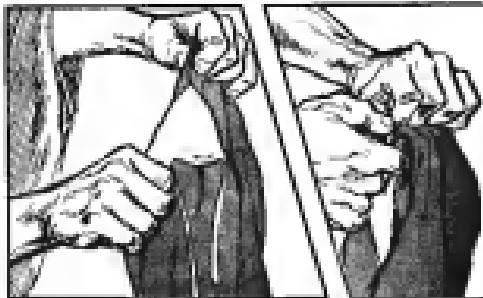


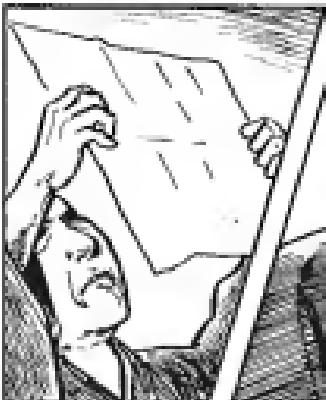
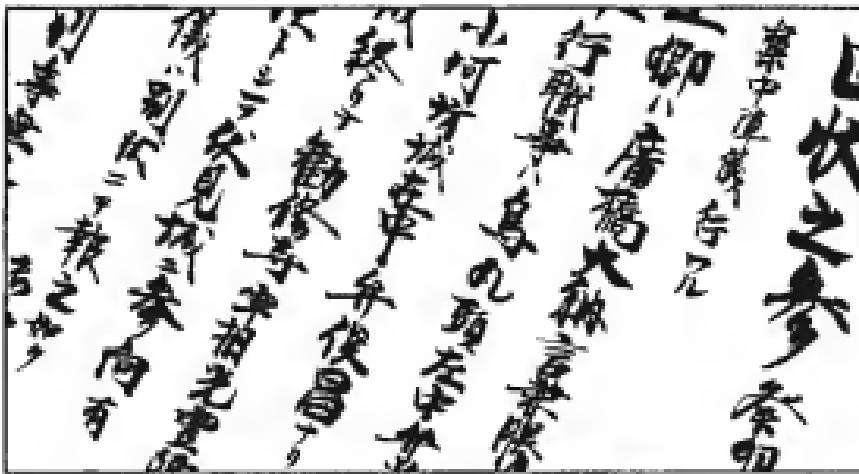




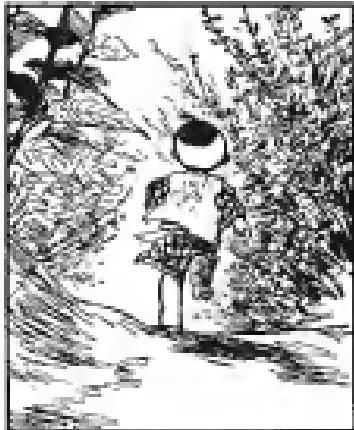


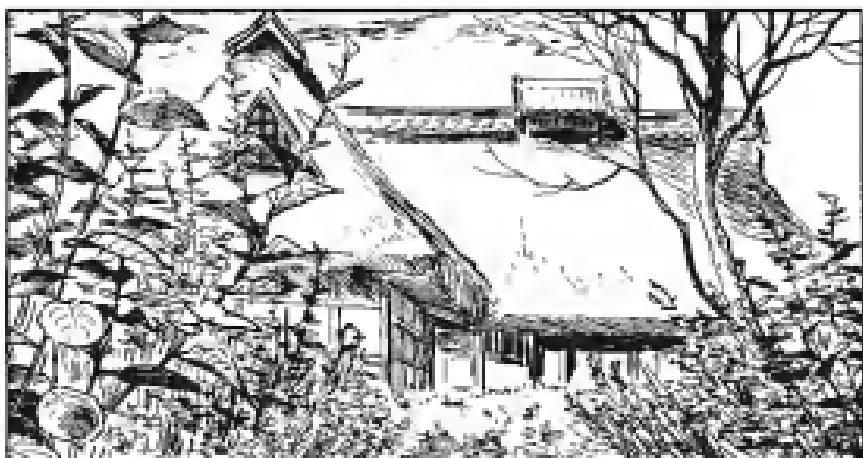




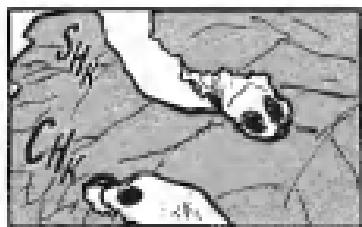
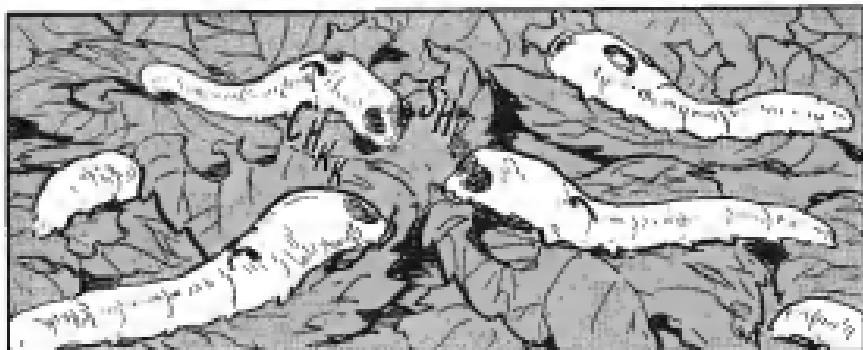
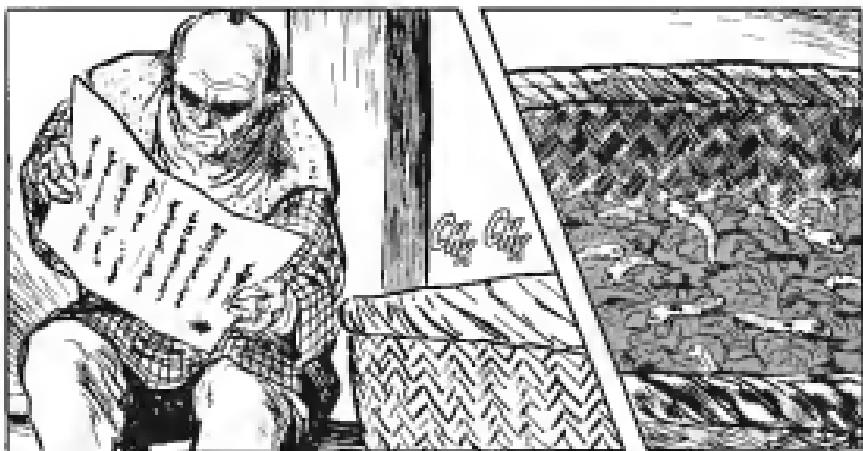


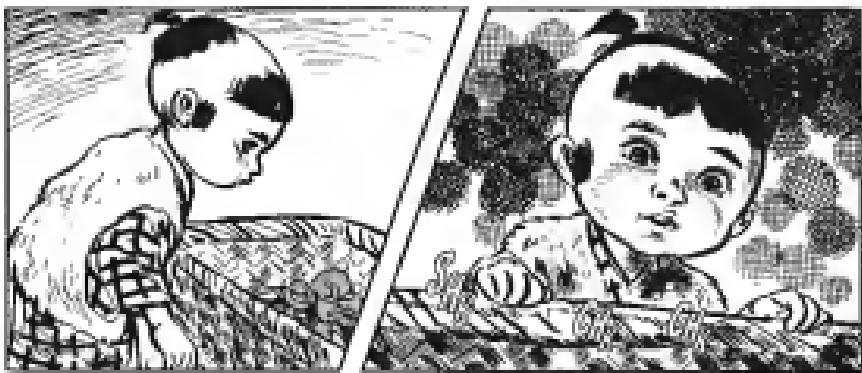


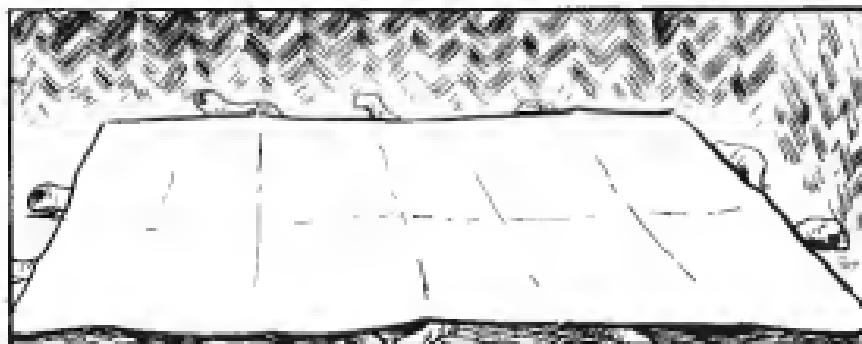
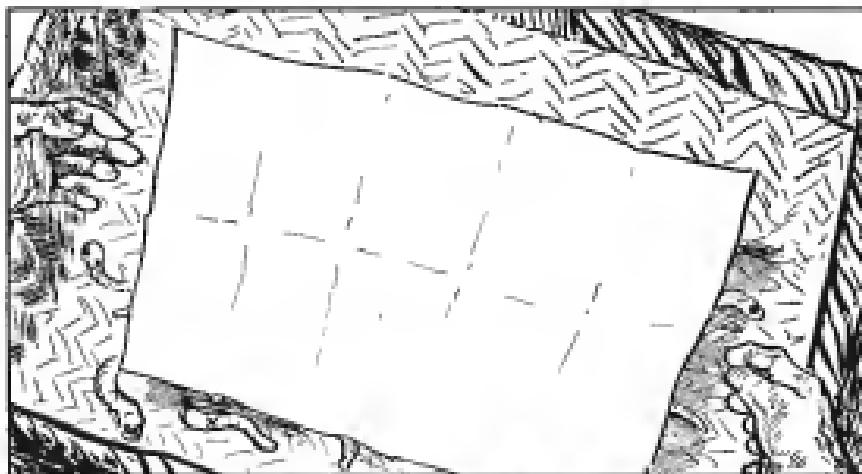


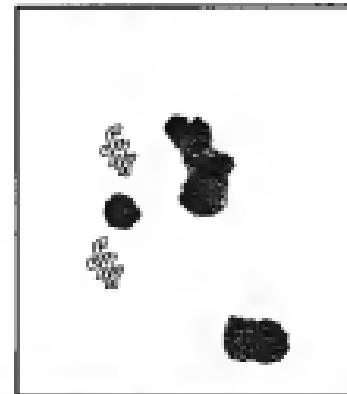
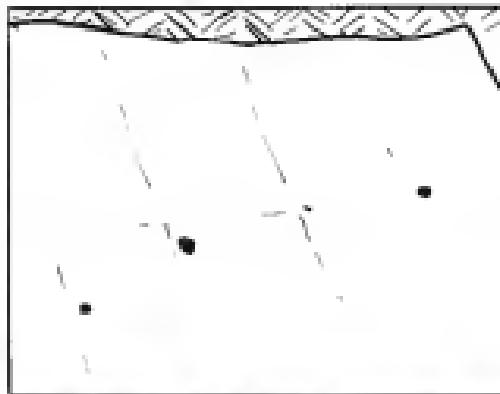


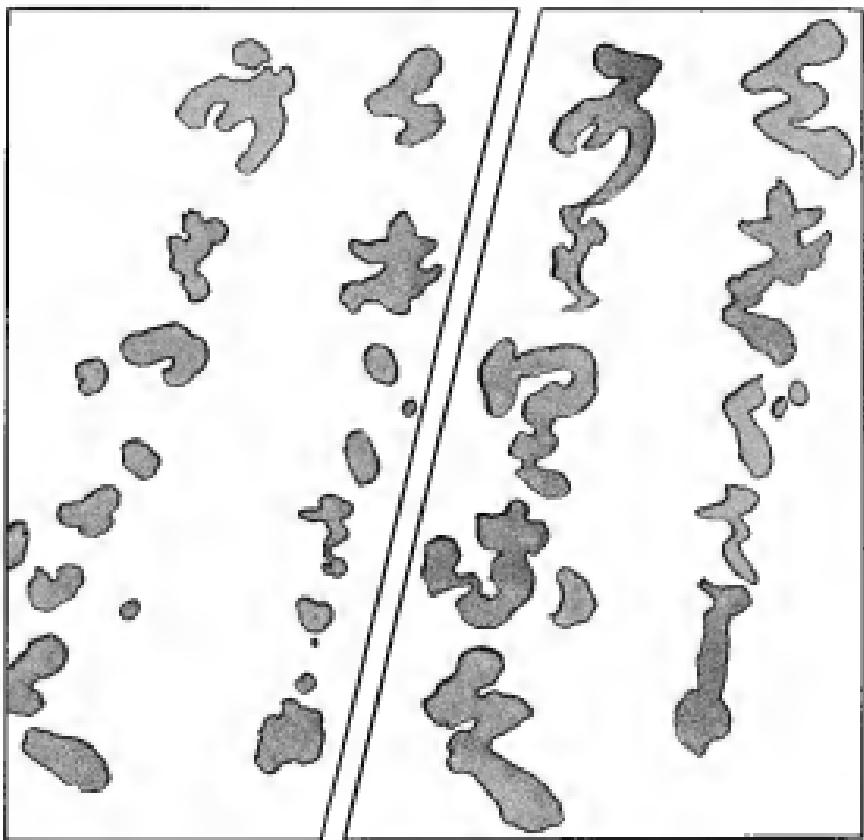








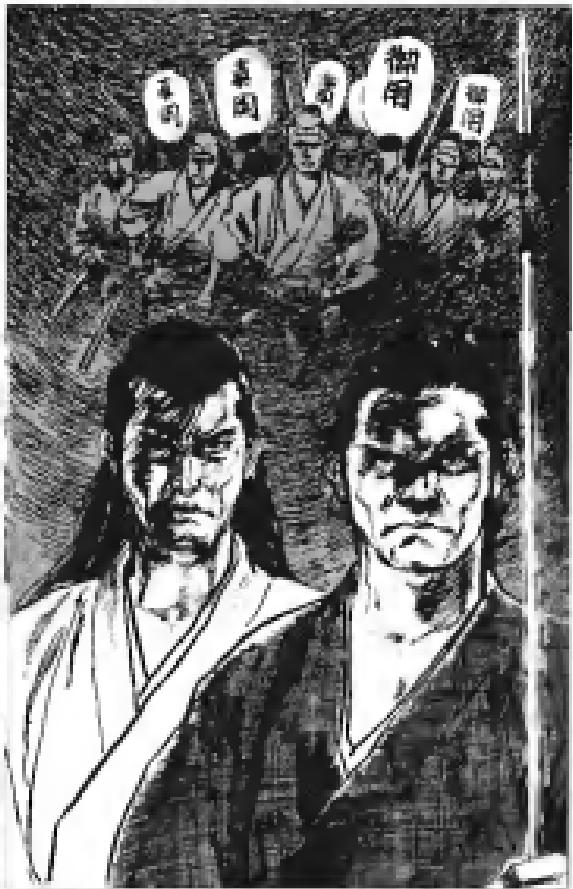






the eighty-first

Demon  
Hide,  
Demon  
Seek



IT'S TIME  
TO BURY **LOVE**  
**WOLF AND CUB**—  
BY FRONTAL  
ASSAULT!



SEND RIDERS  
TO ALL THE DAIMYO'S  
OF ALL THE NANI'  
ALL THE DAIMYO'S  
OF ALL SHOGUNATE  
TERRITORIES!

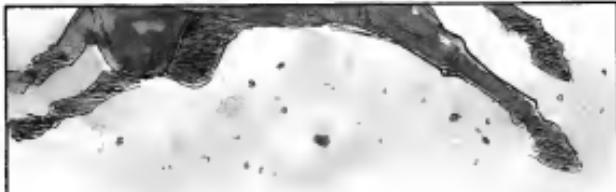
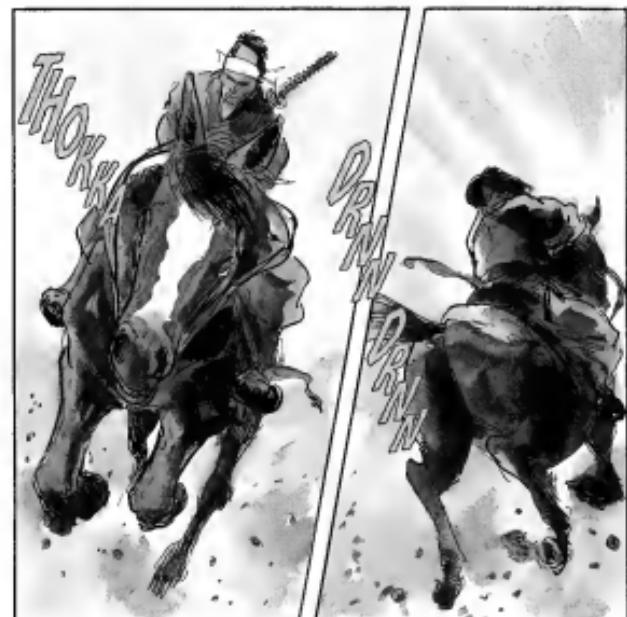
ARREST  
"LOVE WOLF  
AND CUB"—  
REAL NAMES,  
OBANI ITTO  
AND HIS SON,  
DANGORO!

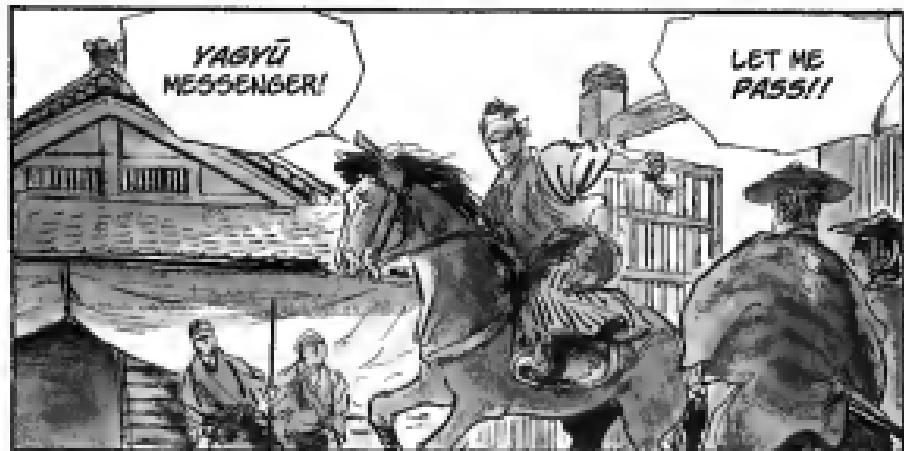
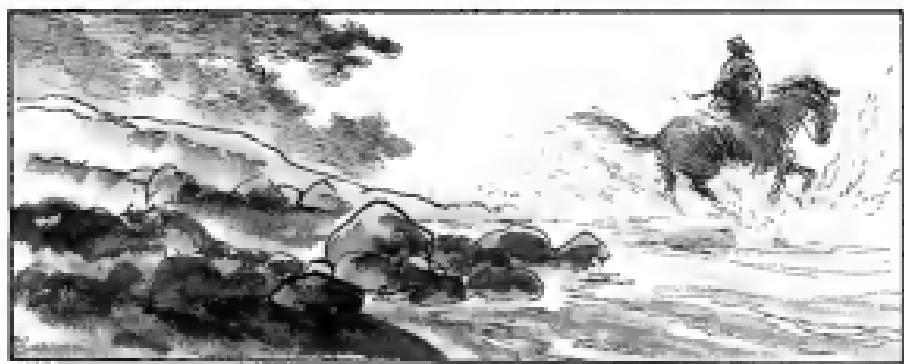
IF THEY CAN'T  
ARREST THEM,  
KILL THEM!  
PART THE VERY  
BLADES OF GRASS  
TO HUNT THEM  
DOWN!

















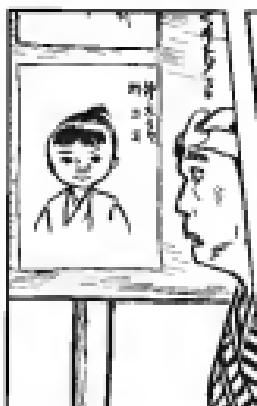
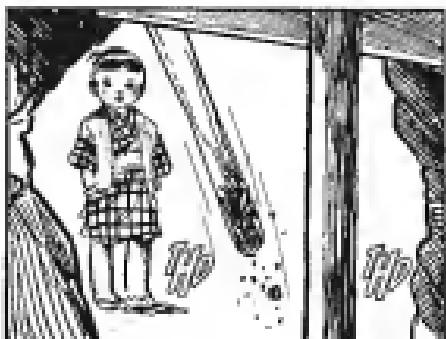
WOLF AND CUB  
(PSYCHOPATH)  
DEAN ITTO, FORMER  
ARMED ASSASSIN,  
AND SON, DAIROKU.

石之春 捕物做手地 大野人  
捕物 うきよ者 二喜 お義平 同  
金五十枚  
居所、出でる者、銀三枚下手にて  
東國松官  
新今木町  
金子  
金子

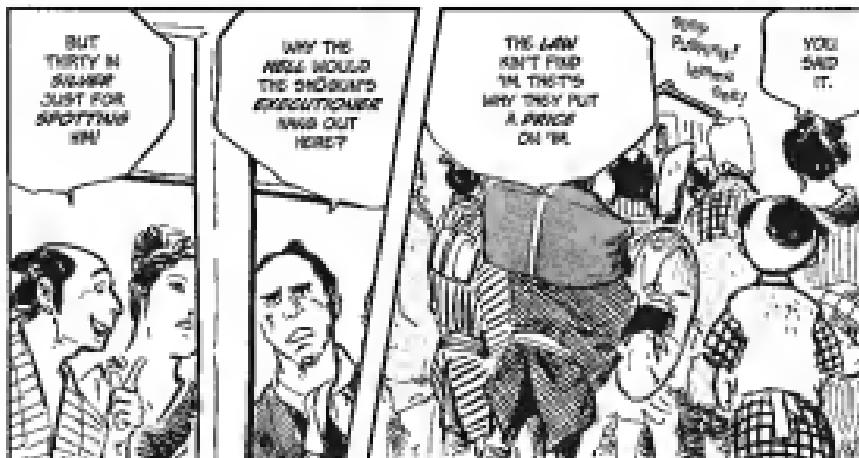
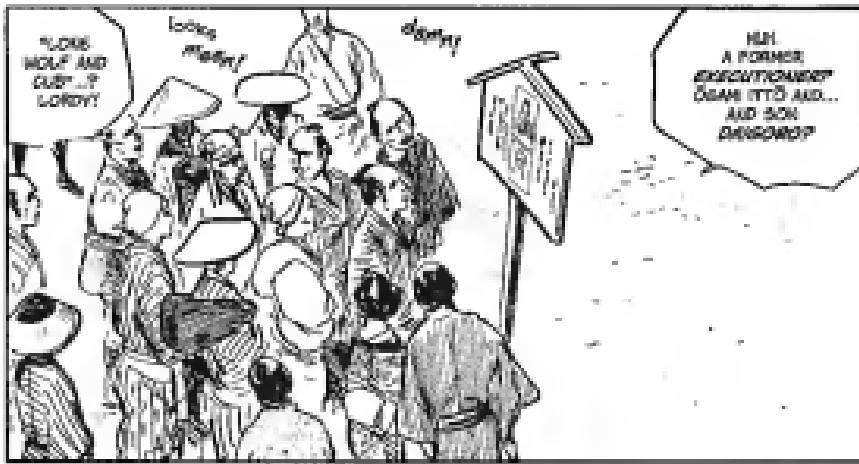


手配懸賞  
子連狼  
五歳今朝之  
大五郎  
大五郎  
WANTED, DEAD OR ALIVE.  
REWARD FOR CAPTURE,  
OR HEADS OF THE SAME,  
FIFTY PIECES OF GOLD.  
FOR INFORMATION LEADING  
TO ARREST, THIRTY IN  
SHAKU. BY ORDER OF  
MAKIA, SHOGUN

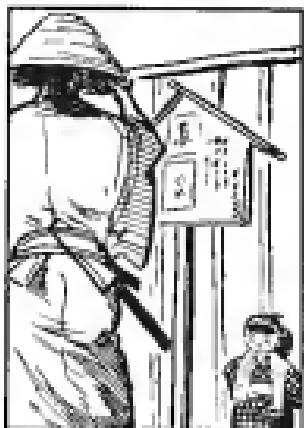
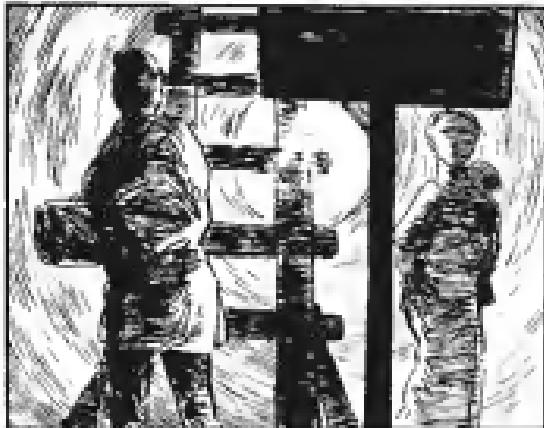
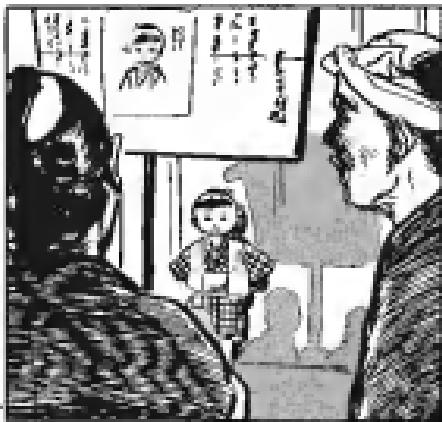




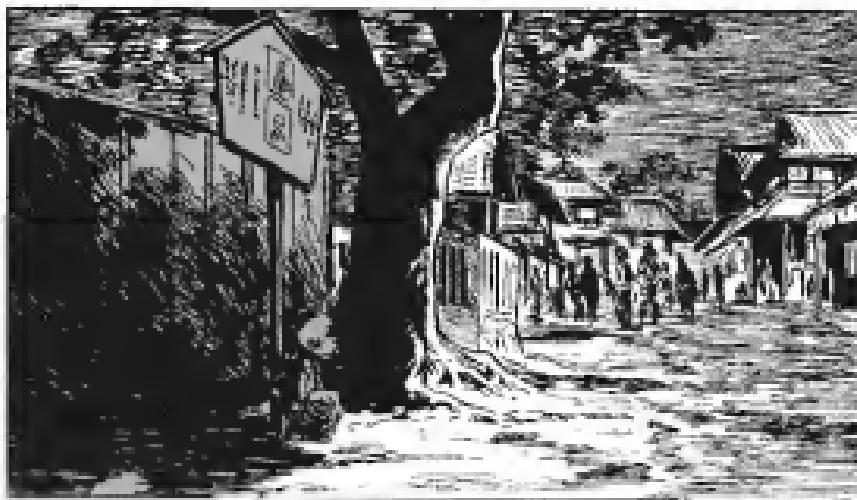
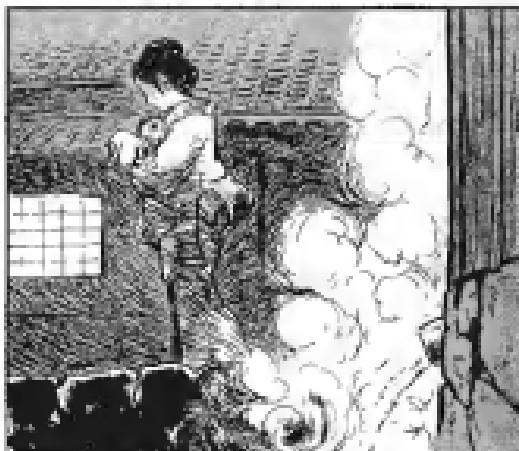


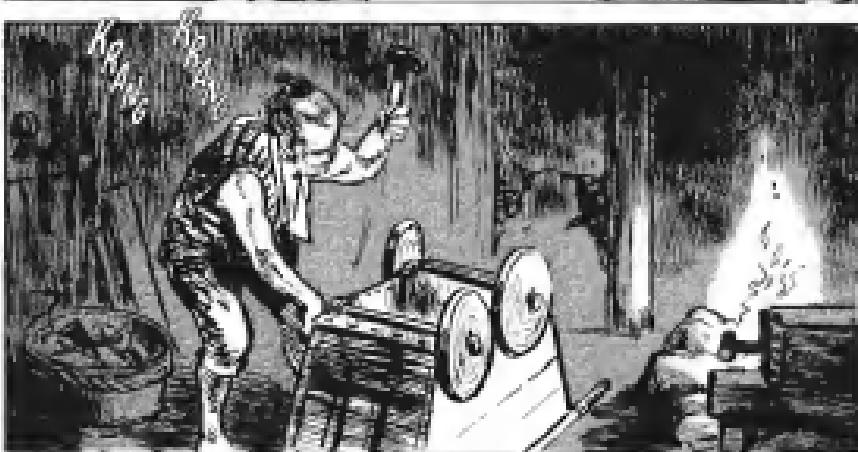
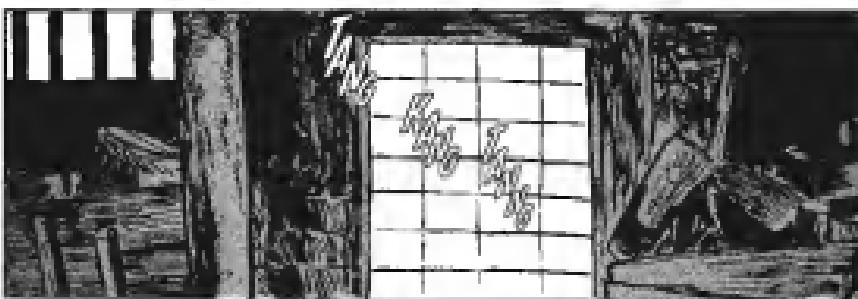


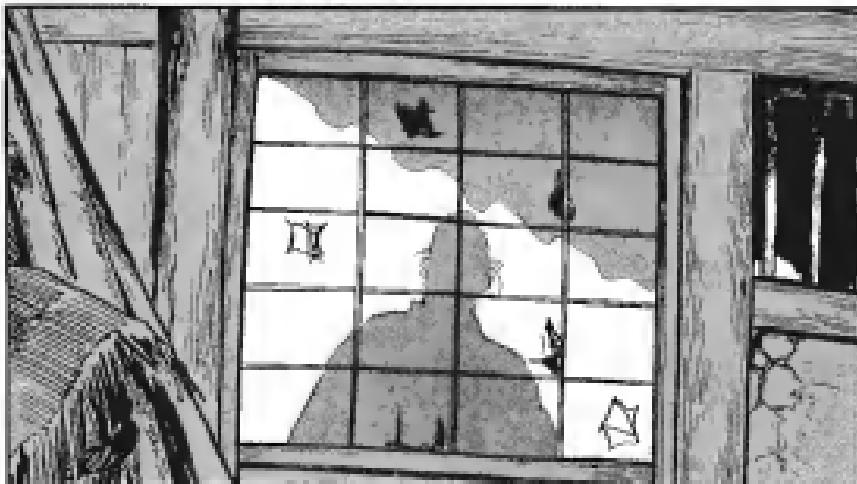




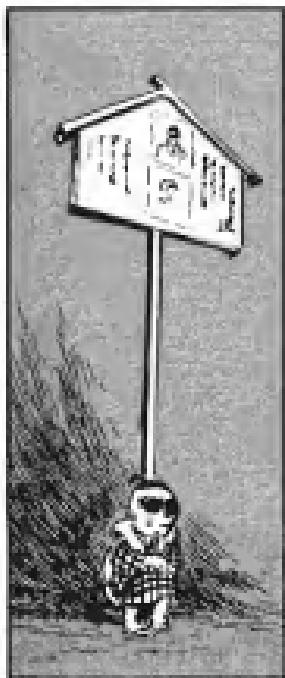






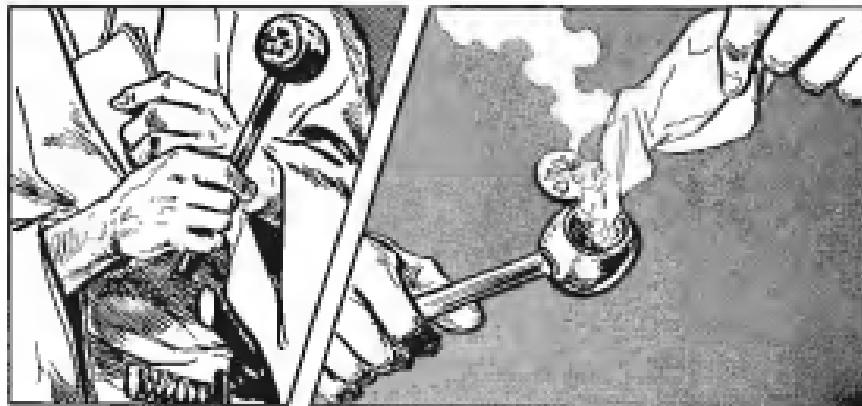


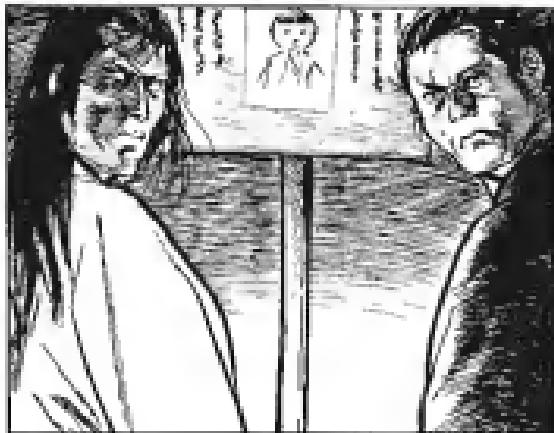




















I SADDY  
A FRONT AS  
MUCH AS ANDY HALL.  
BUT I LIKE MY  
MONEY TO LAND  
IN MY LAP.



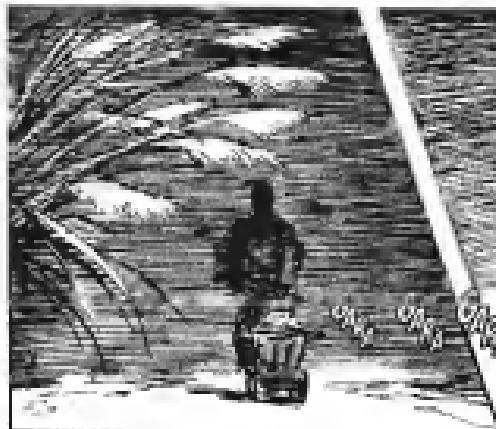
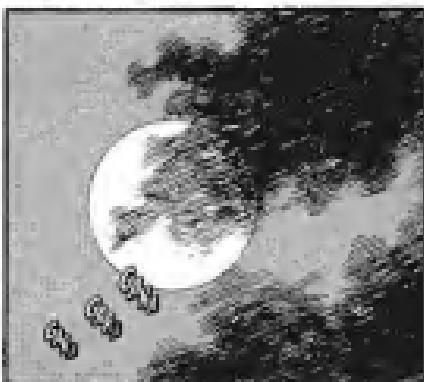
HIDE  
AND  
ENEMY



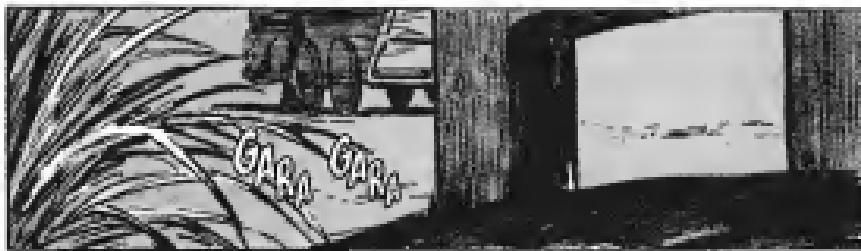
GOT  
IT FROM  
SOME ADVENT  
GAMES.

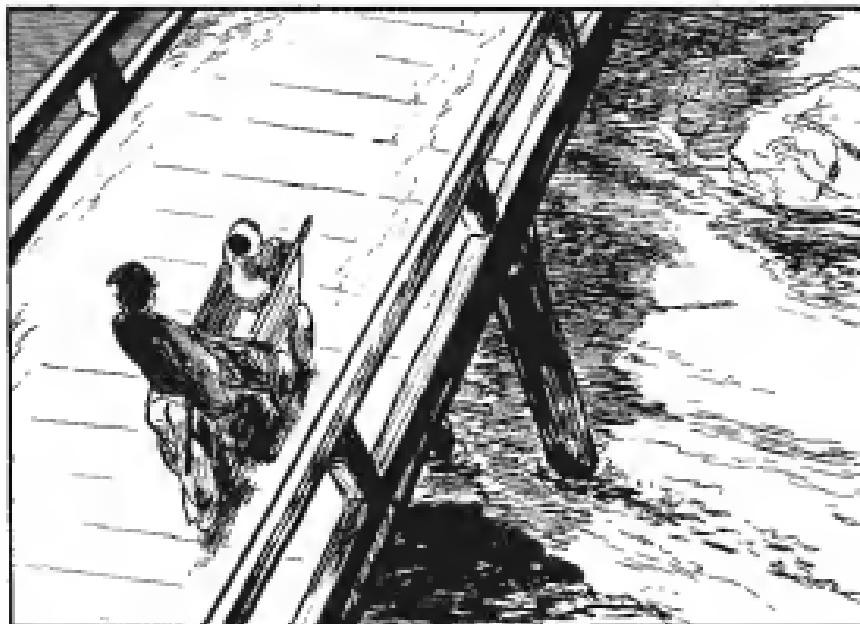
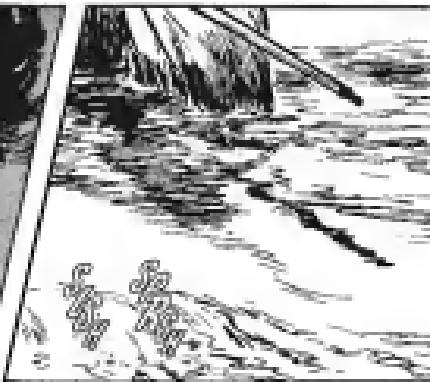


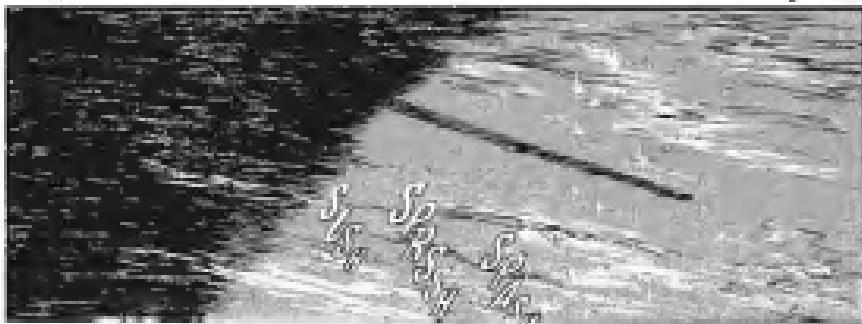
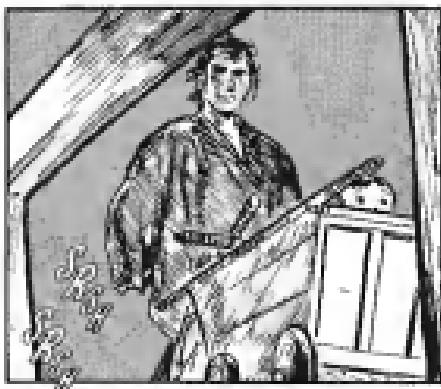


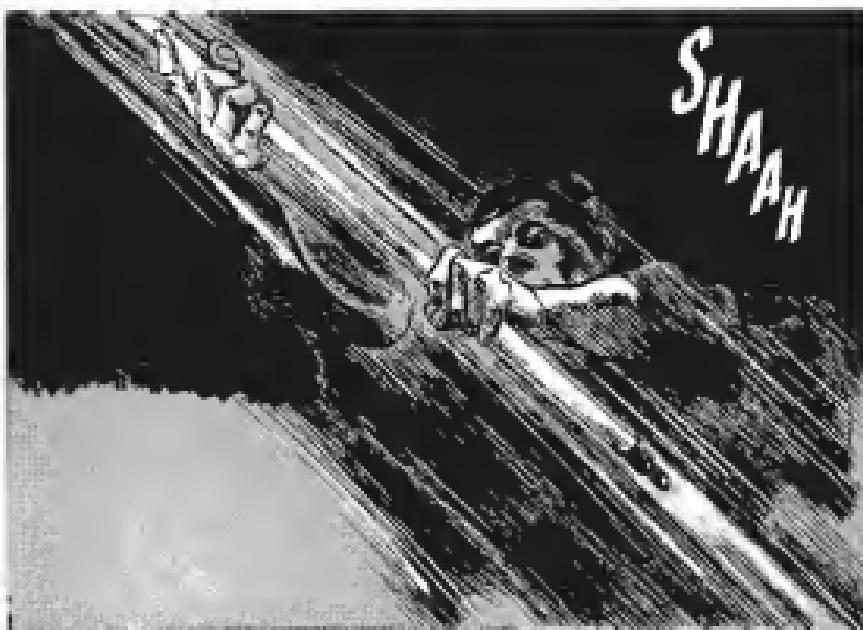


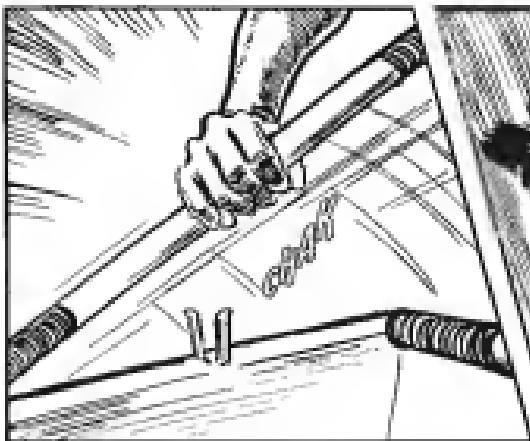
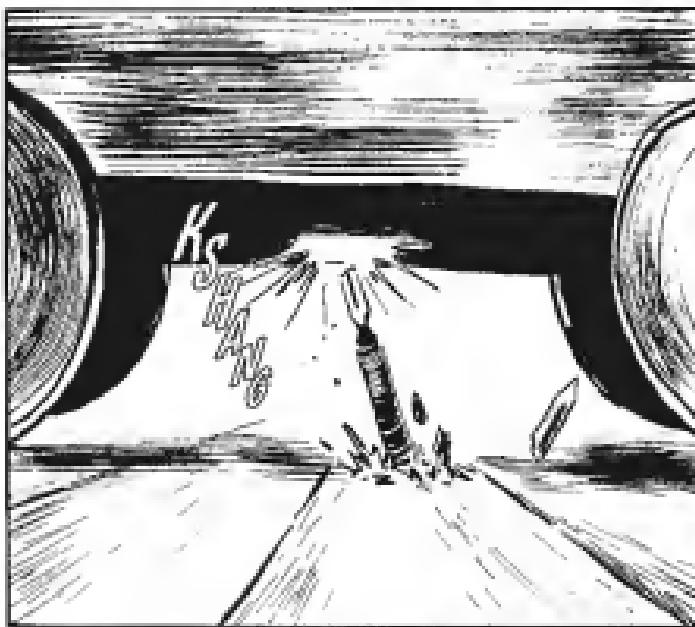
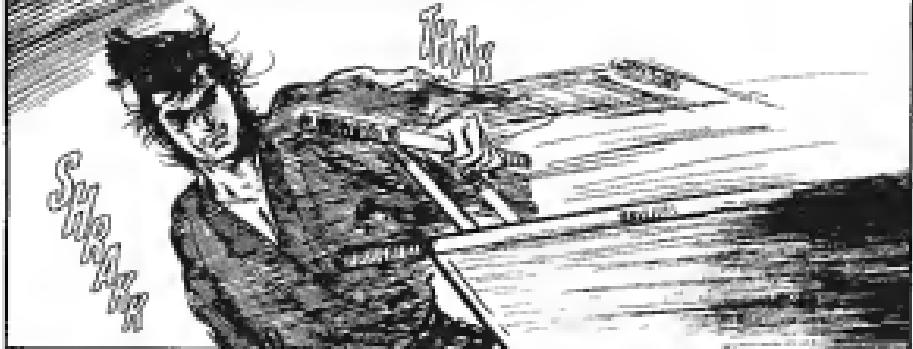


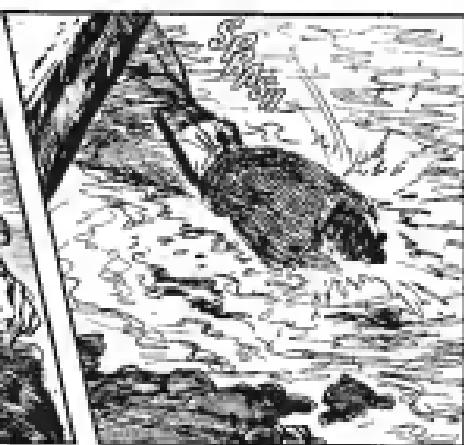


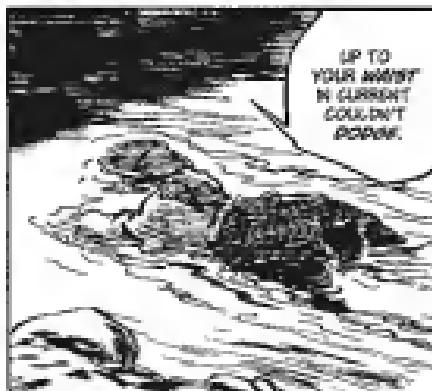




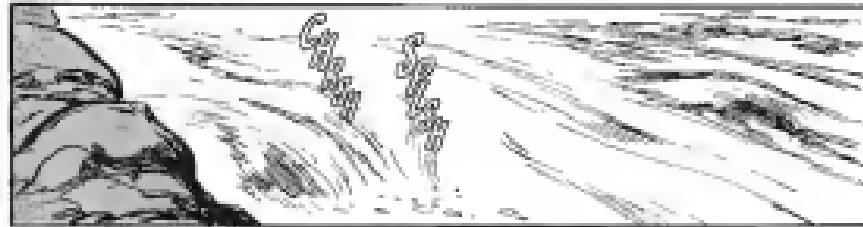
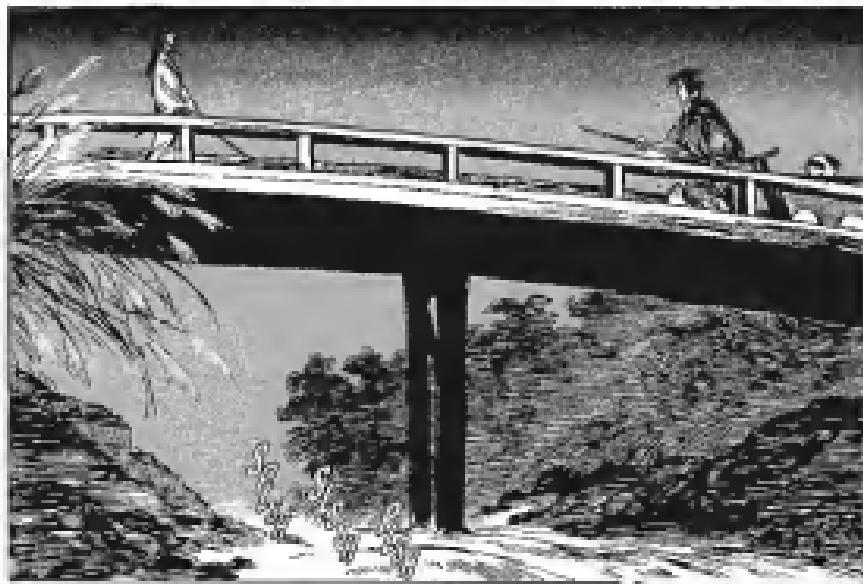


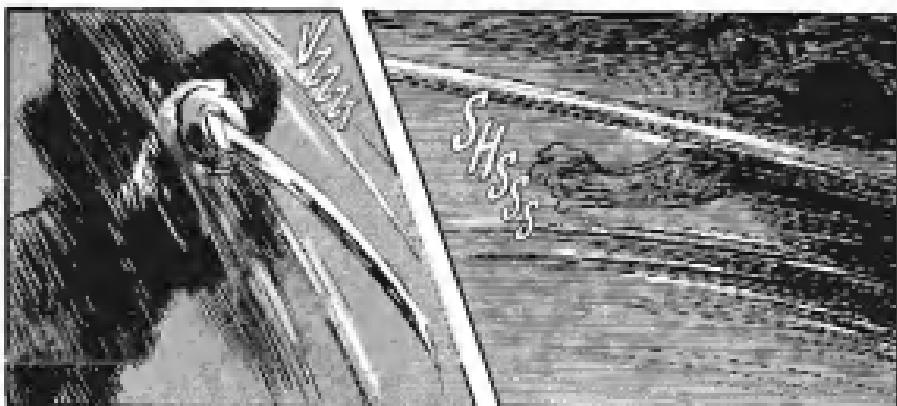
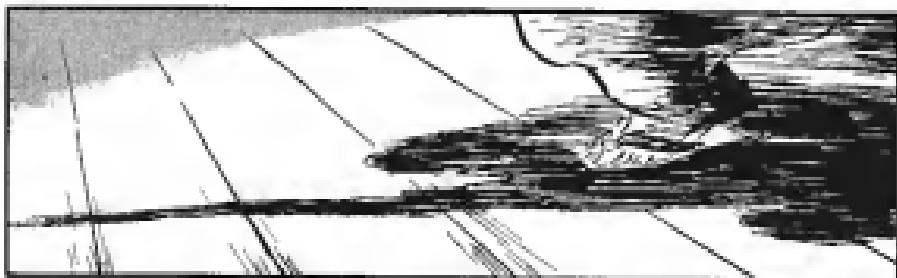




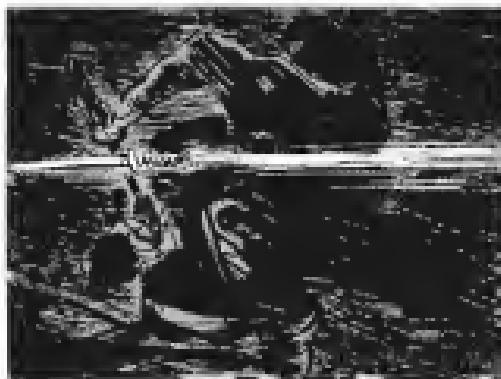






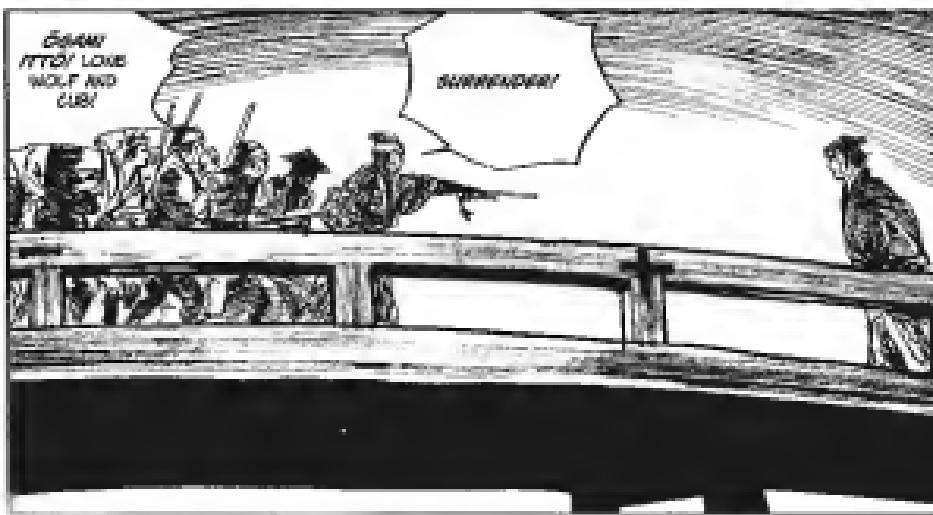




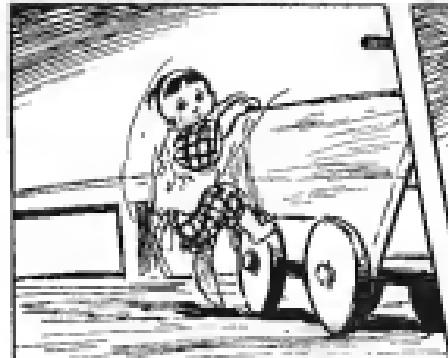




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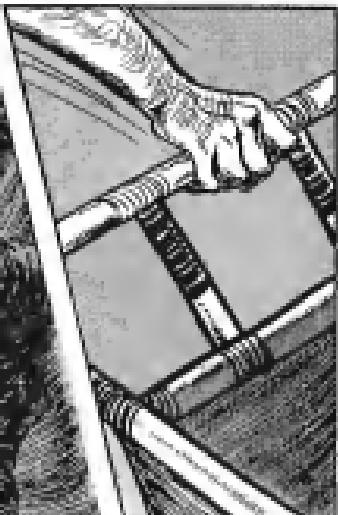
GODARD  
ITTOY LONG  
WOLF AND  
CUB

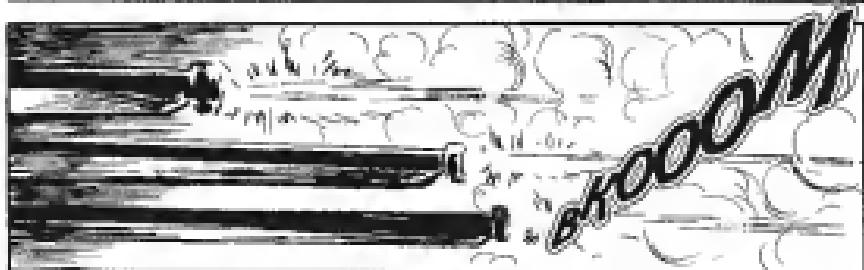
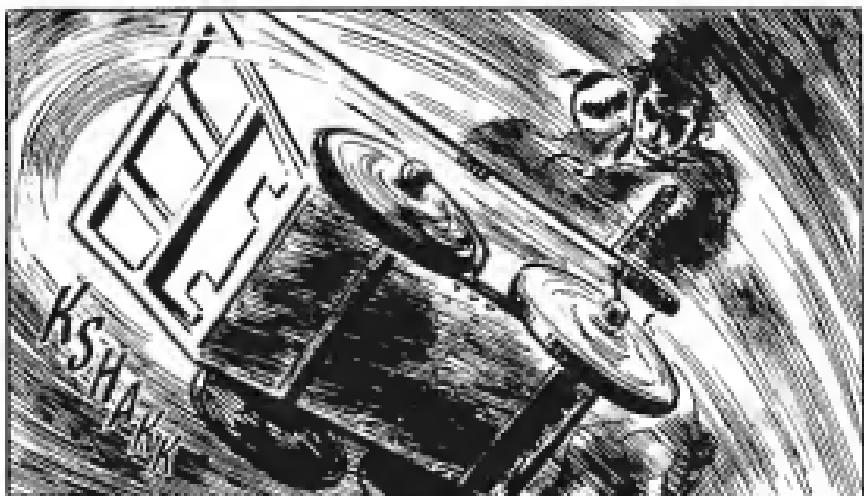


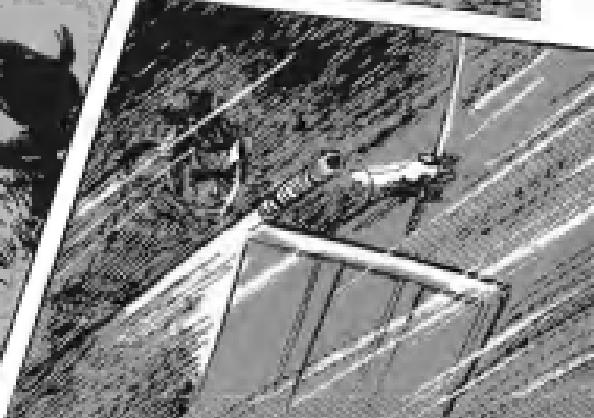




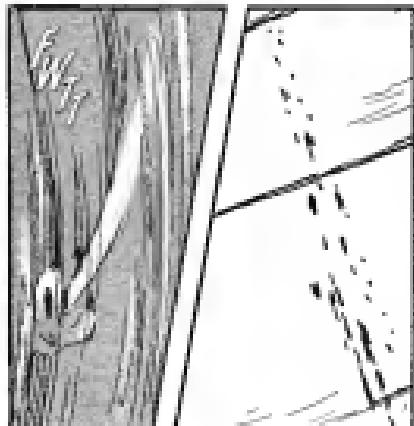




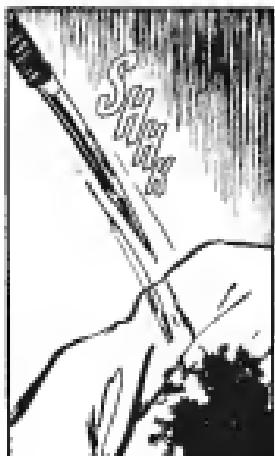


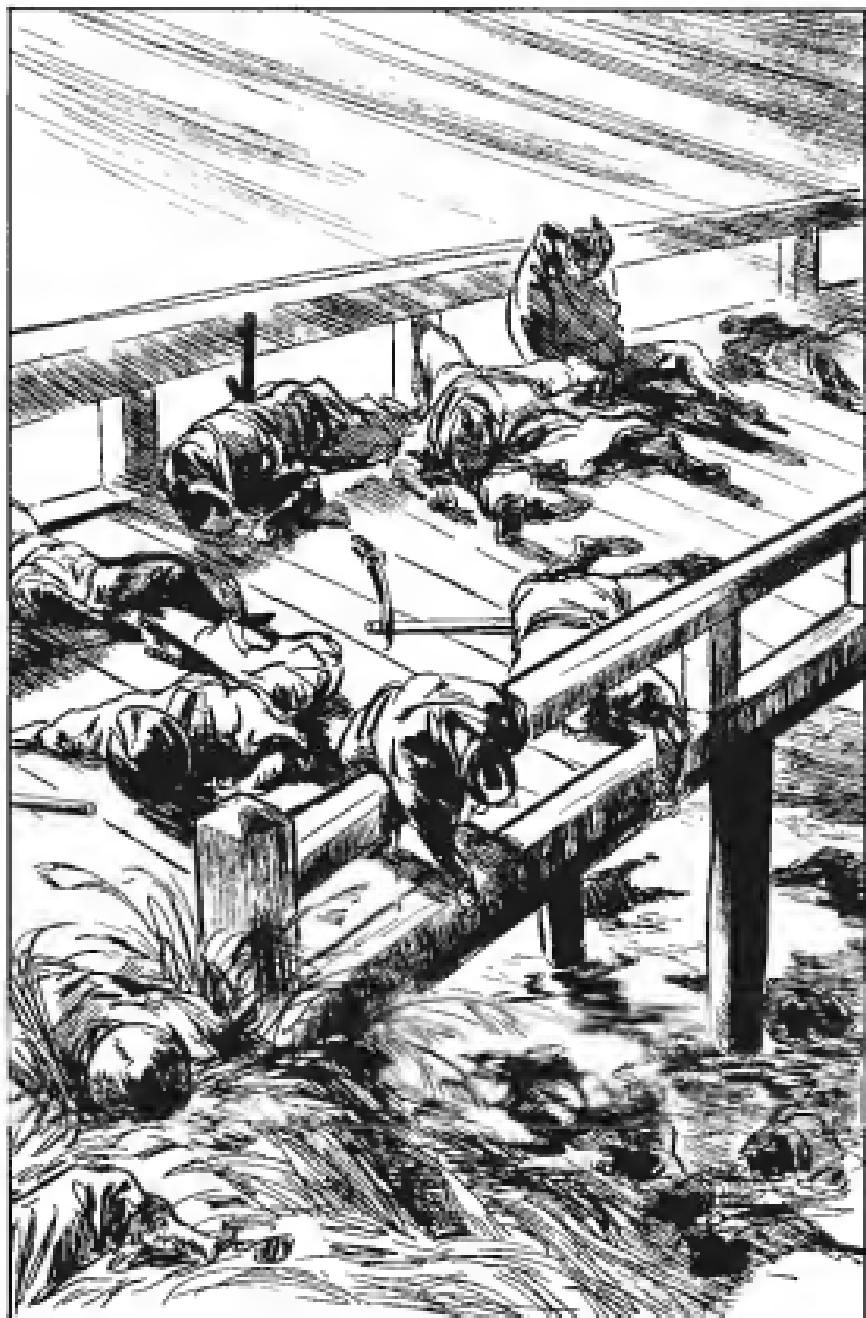












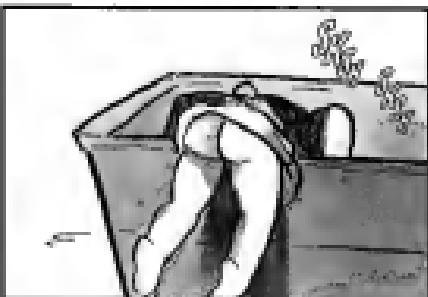
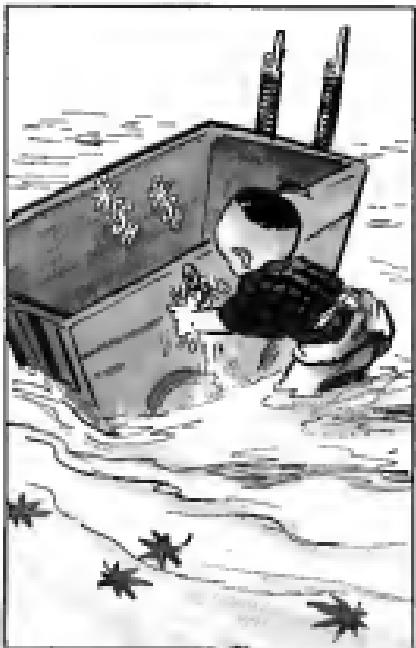


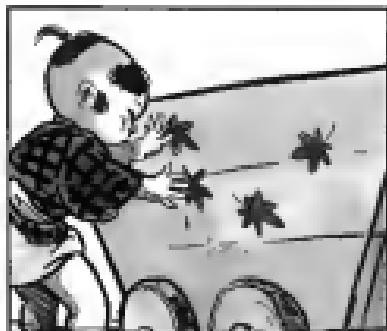
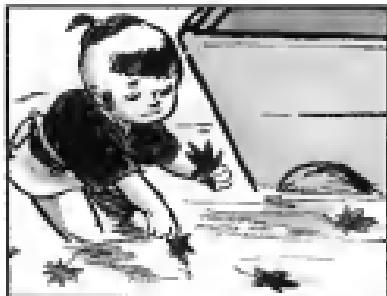
*the eighty-second*

# Gateway into Winter

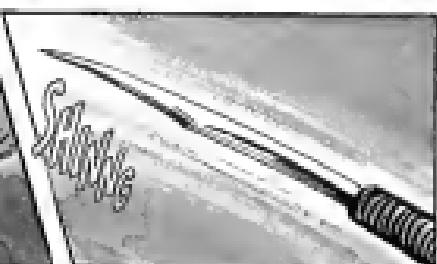
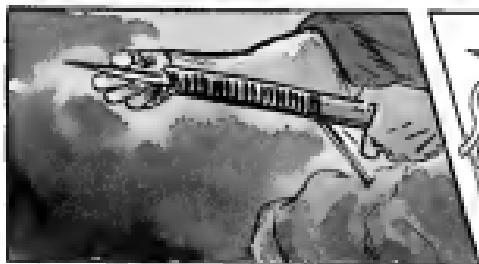
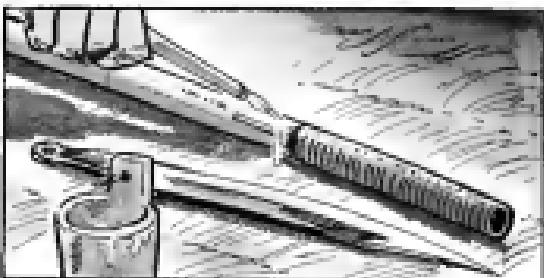


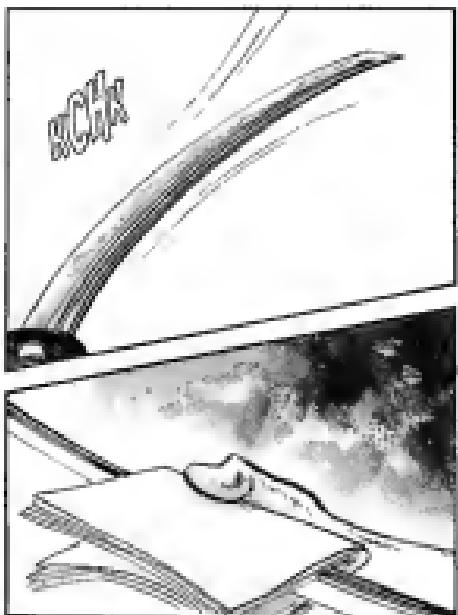
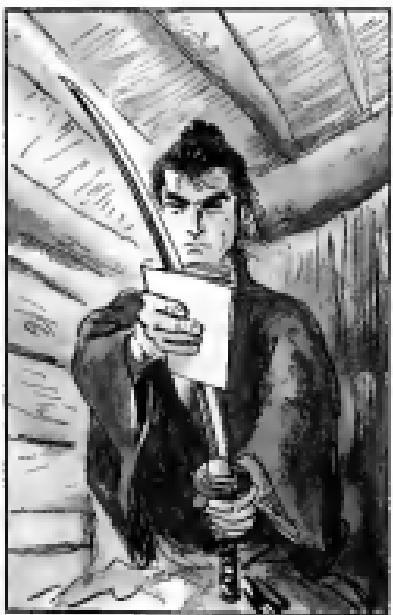


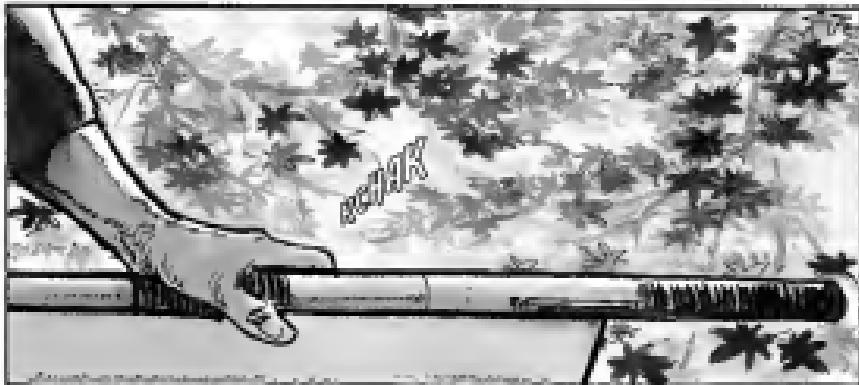




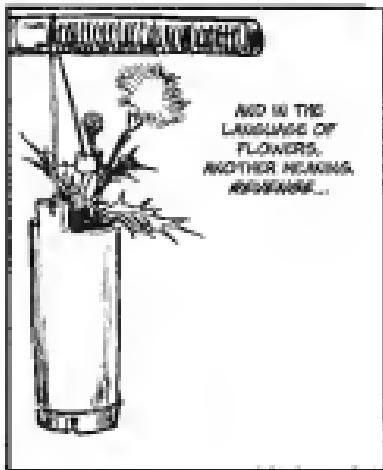






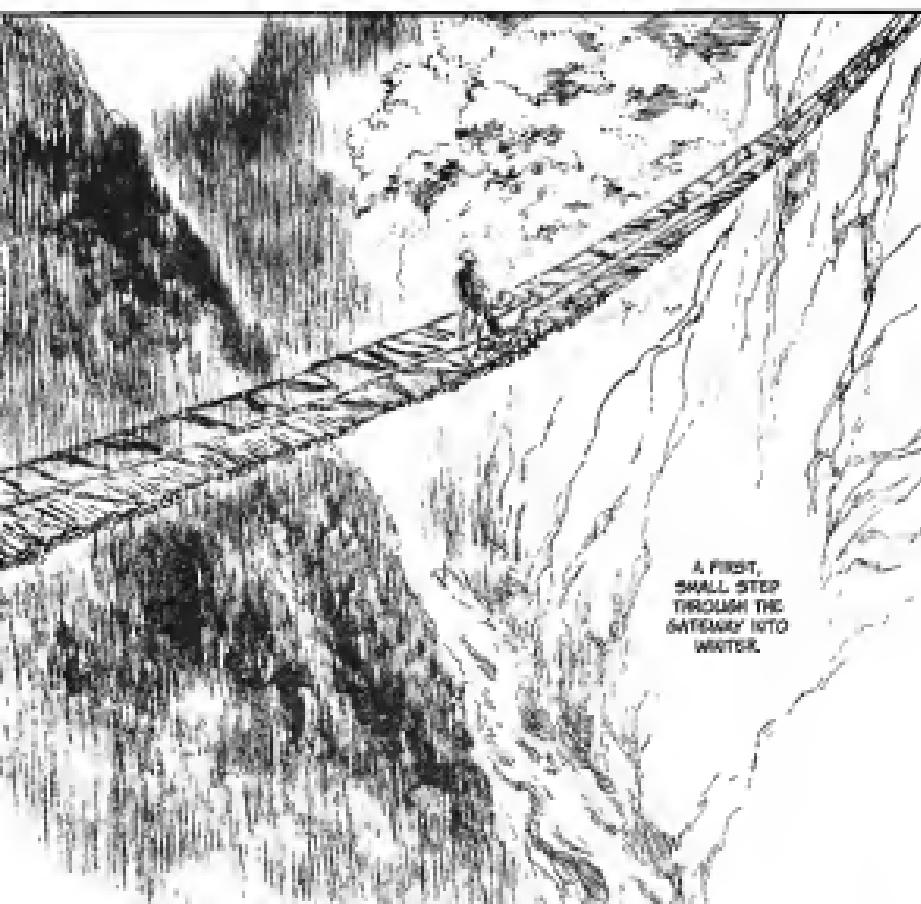




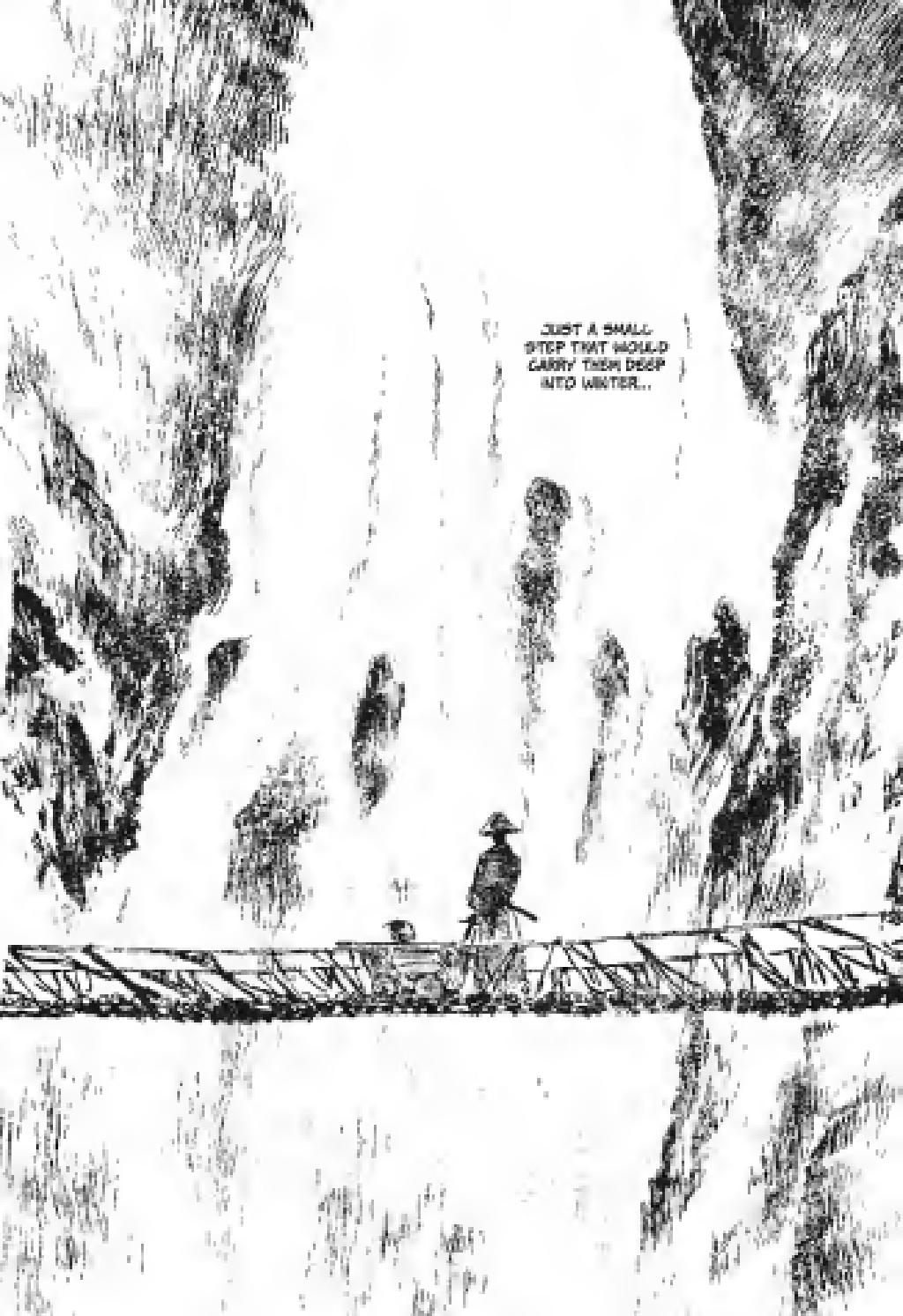




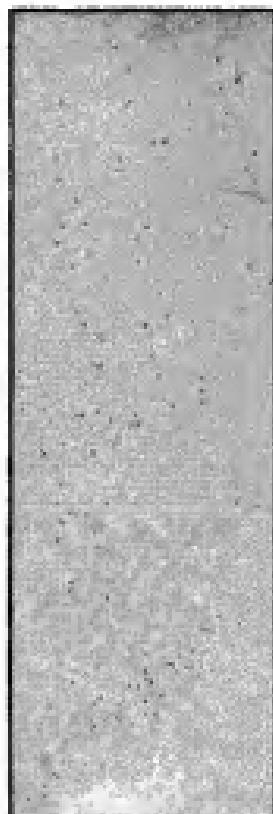
THEY HAD CLEANSED BODY AND SOUL, THEY  
HAD TEADED THEIR WEAPONS, AND NOW THIS  
FATHER AND SON, PLAYTHREES OF  
DESTINY, SET FOOT AGAIN ON  
THEIR JOURNEY OF RONIN.

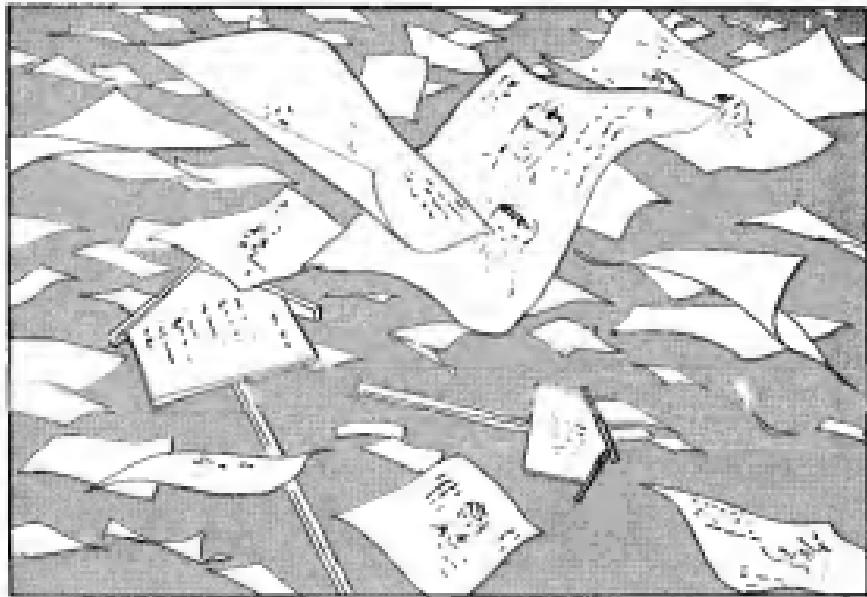
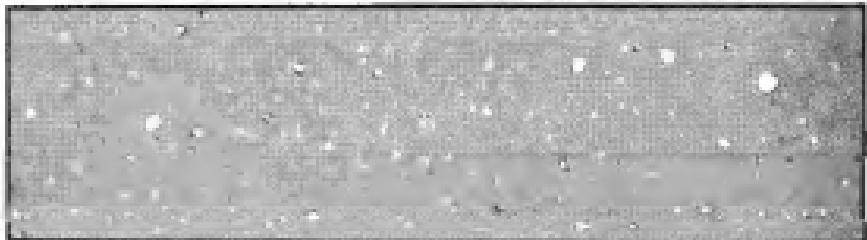


A FIRST,  
SMALL STEP  
THROUGH THE  
GATEWAY INTO  
WINTER.

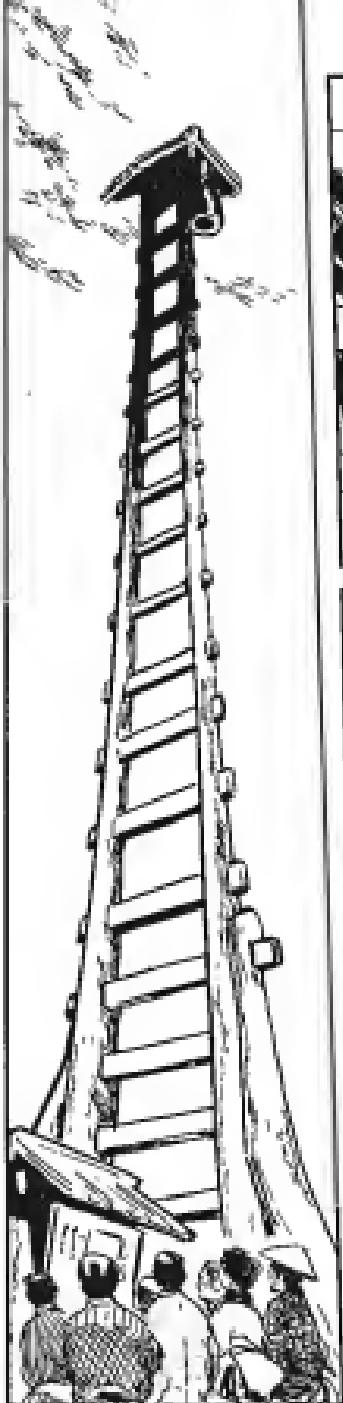


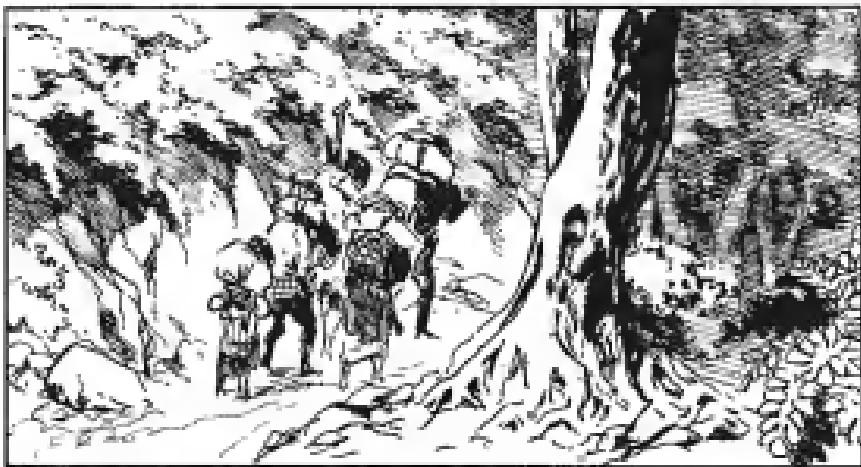
JUST A SMALL  
STEP THAT WOULD  
CARRY THEM DEEP  
INTO WINTER...

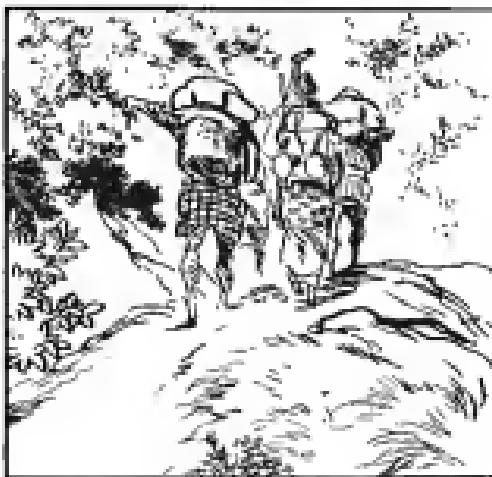


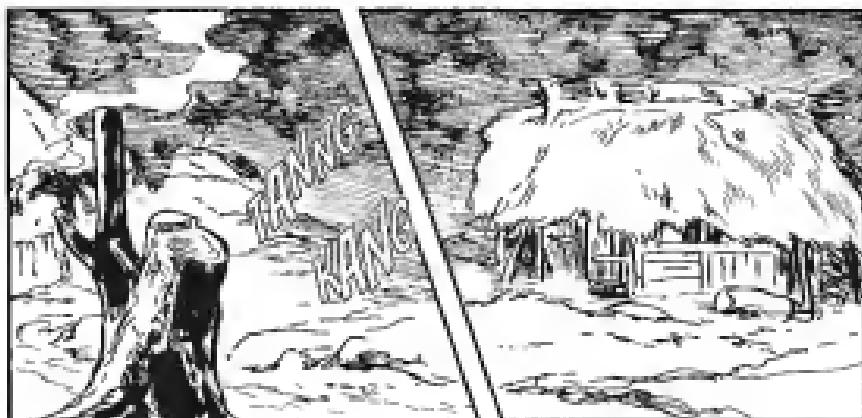


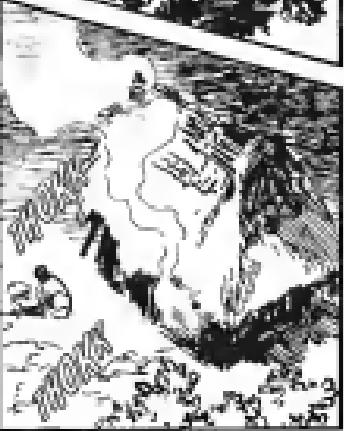


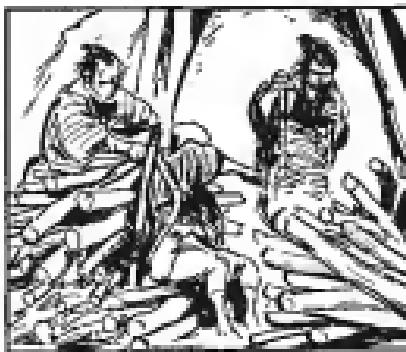


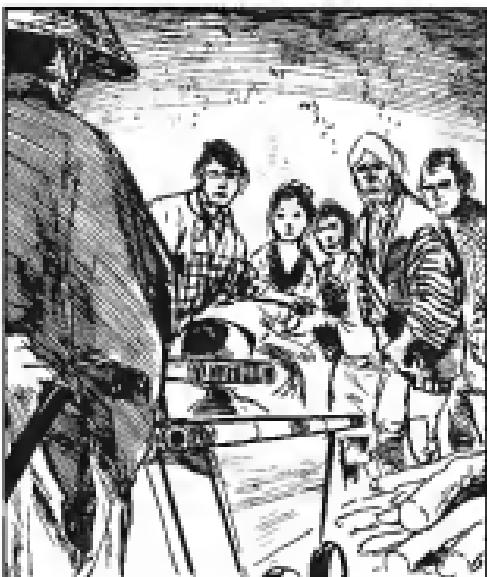




















YOU APOLOGISE TO 'IM RAILROAD. LORD KNOWS WHAT HE COULD DO TO US!

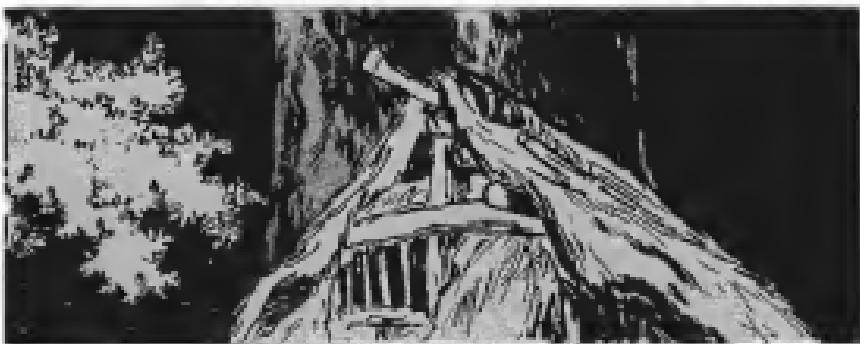


DON'T YE CARE IF GUNNIN' HAD TO GET SHOT DOWN?



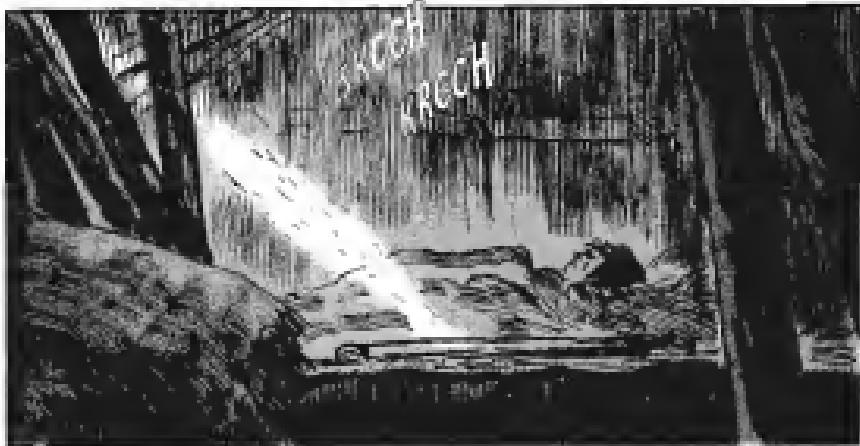
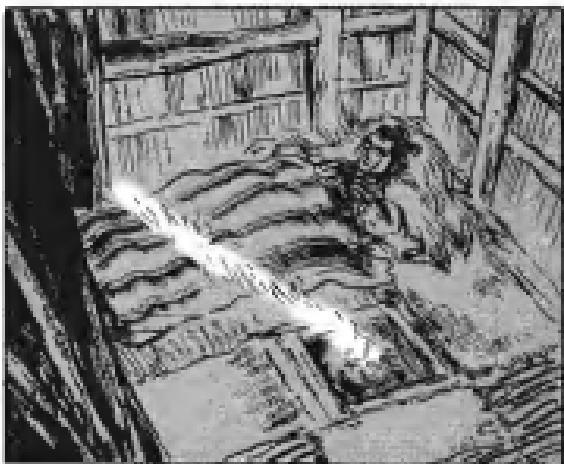


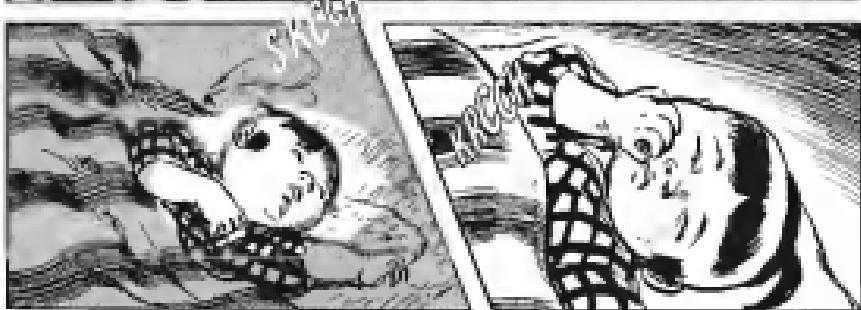




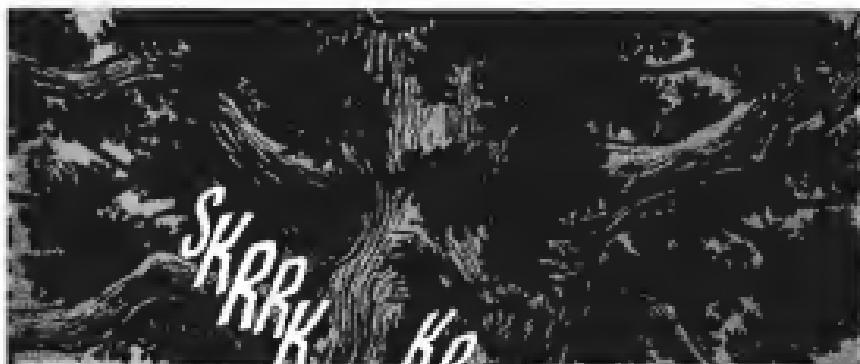


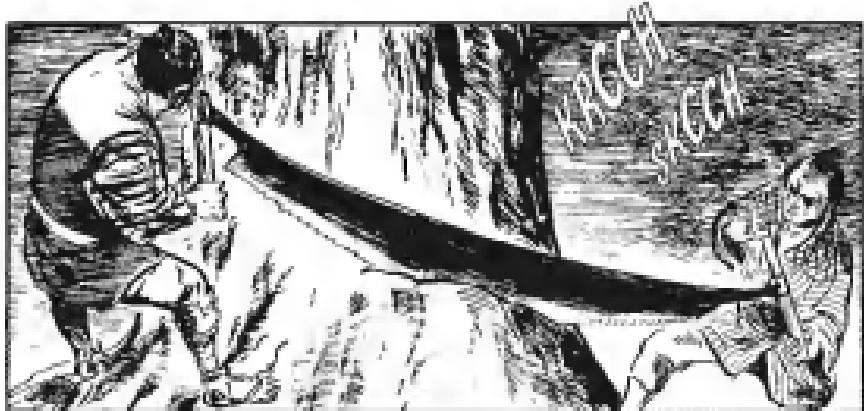




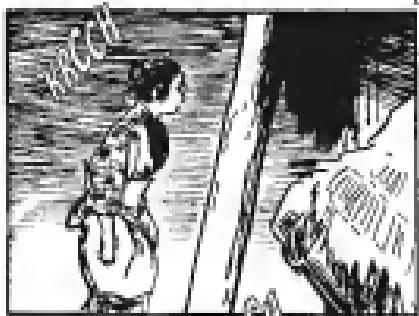


SKCCH SKCCH KRCCH







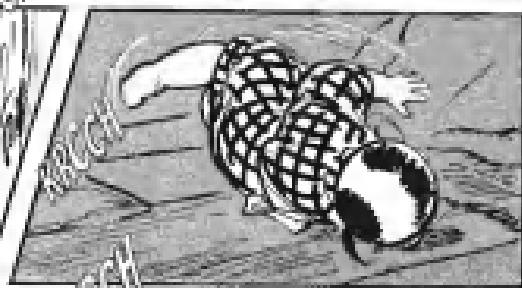
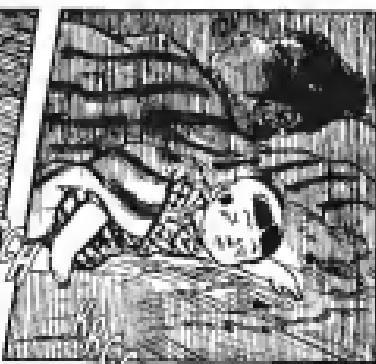
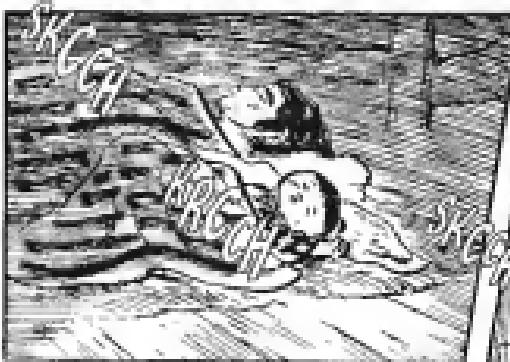


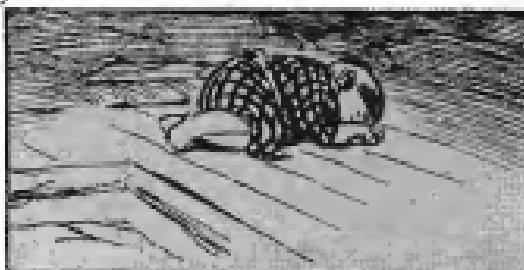
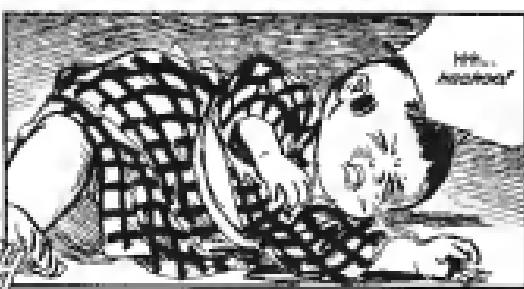


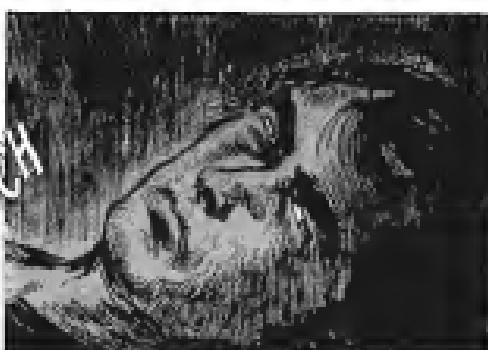


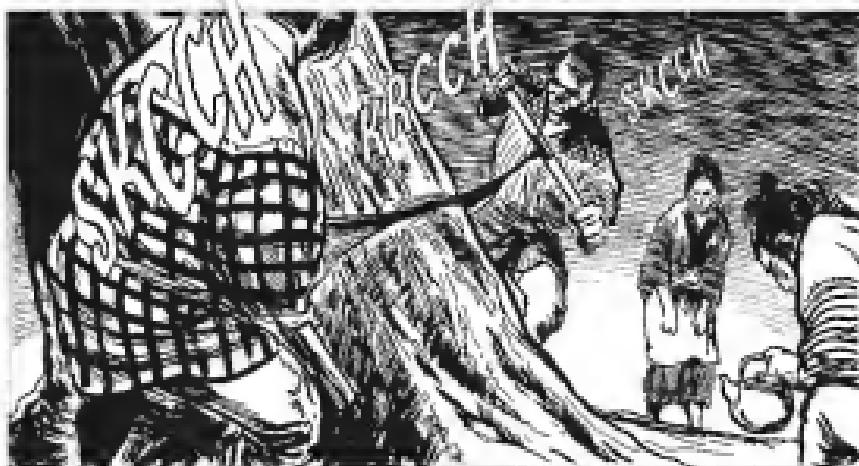














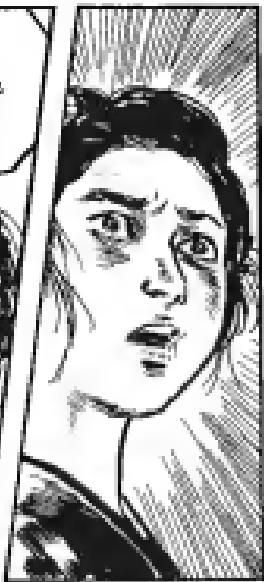














—DAMN...

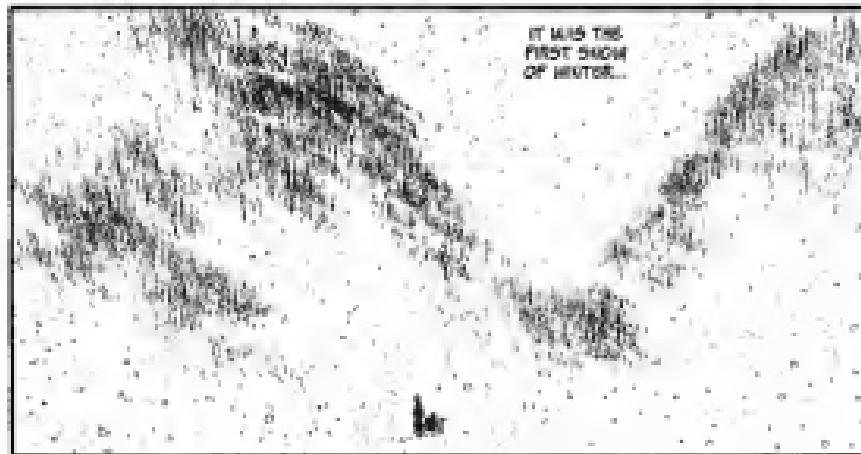












# GLOSSARY

## **hangashira**

Commander of the guard.

## **daikan**

An official who collected taxes owed to Edo and oversaw public works, agriculture, and other projects administered by the central government.

## **daimyō**

A feudal lord.

## **Edo**

The capital of medieval Japan and the seat of the shōgunate. The site of modern-day Tokyo.

## **han**

A feudal domain.

## **honorifics**

Japan is a class and status society and proper forms of address are critical. Common markers of respect are the prefixes *o* and *go*, and a wide range of suffixes. Some of the suffixes you will encounter in *Low Wolf and Calf*:

*chan* – for children, young women, and close friends

*dono* – archaic; used for higher-ranked or highly respected figures

*san* – the most common, used among equals or near-equals

*sama* – used for superiors

*sensei* – used for teachers, masters, respected entertainers, and politicians

## **kitsune**

A Japanese fox. Foxes were believed to be supernatural shape-changers, transforming themselves into beautiful women to deceive travelers.

## **kōgi kaishakunin**

The shōgun's own second, who performed executions ordered by the shōgun.

## **meifumado**

The Buddhist Hell. The way of demons and damnation.

## **Mulberry**

The leaves of the Mulberry tree are the favored food of silkworms.

## **o-tedama**

A traditional girl's game, playing catch and juggling with tedama, small juggling balls stuffed with dry beans.

ri

Old unit of measurement. Approximately 4 kilometers (2.5 miles).

rōnin

A masterless samurai. Literally, "one adrift on the waves." Members of the samurai caste who have lost their masters through the dissolution of han, expulsion for misbehavior, or other reasons. Prohibited from working as farmers or merchants under the strict Confucian caste system imposed by the Tokugawa shōgunate, many impoverished rōnin became "hired guns" for whom the code of the samurai was nothing but empty words.

ryō

A gold piece, worth 60 monme.

ryū

Often translated as "school." The many variations of swordsmanship and other martial arts were passed down from generation to generation to the offspring of the originator of the technique or set of techniques, and to any *disci* students that sought to learn from the master. The largest schools had their own *dojo* training centers and scores of students. An effective swordsman had to study the different techniques of the various

schools to know how to block them in combat. Many ryū also had a set of special, secret techniques that were only taught to school initiates.

shinobi

A generic term for ninja, meaning "one who moves in secrecy." Ninja had their heyday in the time of warring states before the rise of the Tokugawa clan. Originally mercenaries serving different warlords, by the Edo period they were in the service of the central government. The most famous shinobi were the ninja of Iga and Kaga, north of Kyoto. The *Kurokuwa* that appear in *Low Wolf* and *Cub* were officially the laborers and manual workers in Edo Castle. Whether they truly served as a secret spy corps is lost in history.

suami

Japanese ink, used for calligraphy and *sōsaku* (ink paintings). It comes in a solid block and is wetted with water in a tray.

sumiyaki

Charcoal makers. Charcoal was used in stoves for home heating and cooking. Sumiyaki spent the winter in the hills, cutting down lumber and slow burning it into charcoal to sell in town.

tsuba

Sword guard.

子連水狼

# KAZUO KOIKE

Though widely respected as a powerful writer of graphic fiction, Kazuo Koike has spent a lifetime reaching beyond the bounds of the comics medium. Aside from co-creating and writing the successful *Lonely Wolf and Cub* and *Crying Freeman* manga, Koike has hosted television programs; founded a golf magazine; produced movies; written popular fiction, poetry, and screenplays; and mentored some of Japan's best manga talent.

*Lonely Wolf and Cub* was first serialized in Japan in 1970 (under the title *Kogure Okami*) in *Manga Action* magazine and continued its hugely popular run for many years, being collected as the stories were published, and reprinted worldwide. Koike collected numerous awards for his work on the series throughout the next decade. Starting in 1973, Koike adapted the popular manga into a series of six films, the *Baby Cart Assassin* saga, garnering widespread commercial success and critical acclaim for his screenwriting.

This wasn't Koike's only foray into film and video. In 1996, *Crying Freeman*, the manga Koike created with artist Ryoichi Ikegami, was

produced in Hollywood and released to commercial success in Europe and is currently awaiting release in America.

And to give something back to the medium that gave him so much, Koike started the *Gekiga Sōjuku*, a college course aimed at helping talented writers and artists — such as *Ranma 1/2* creator Rumiko Takahashi — break into the comics field.

The driving focus of Koike's narrative is character development, and his commitment to character is clear: "Comics are carried by characters. If a character is well created, the comic becomes a hit." Kazuo Koike's continued success in comics and literature has proven this philosophy true.



# GOSEKI KOJIMA

Goseki Kojima was born on November 3, 1928, the very same day as the godfather of Japanese comics, Osamu Tezuka. While just out of junior high school, the self-taught Kojima began painting advertising posters for movie theaters to pay his bills.

In 1950, Kojima moved to Tokyo, where the postwar devastation had given rise to special manga forms for audiences too poor to buy the new manga magazines. Kojima created art for *kasai-shibai*, or "paper-play" narrators, who would use manga story sheets to present narrated street plays. Kojima moved on to creating works for the *kanshō-bon* market, bookstores that rented out books, magazines, and manga to mostly low-income readers. He soon became highly popular among *kanshō*-bon readers.

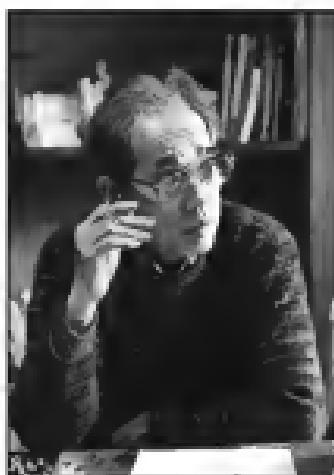
In 1967, Kojima broke into the magazine market with his series *Deyuki*. As the manga magazine market grew and diversified, he turned out a steady stream of popular series.

In 1970, in collaboration with Kazuo Koike, Kojima began the work that would seal his reputation, *Usagi*

*(Lone Wolf and Cub)*. Before long the story had become a gigantic hit, eventually spawning off a television series, six motion pictures, and even theme song records. Koike and Kojima were soon dubbed the "golden duo" and produced success after success on their way to the pinnacle of the manga world.

When *Manga Japan* magazine was launched in 1994, Kojima was asked to serve as consultant, and he helped train the next generation of manga artists.

In his final years, Kojima turned to creating original graphic novels based on the movies of his favorite director, Akira Kurosawa. Kojima passed away on January 5, 2000 at the age of 71.





The Lone Wolf's arch-enemy, Yagyu Retsudo, is truly beginning to reach the end of his rope, as he sends his only daughter and last child after the blood-storm that is Itto Ogami! Meanwhile, Ogami and Daigoro happen upon another clue about the mysterious Yagyu Letter in a final showdown with the Kurokuwa ninja clan. A desperate Retsudo puts a bounty on Ogami's head, and two of Japan's most deadly bounty hunters hunt for the Lone Wolf and his Cub, while a poor woodcutter must decide between the bounty and his life by sheltering Ogami and Daigoro! All this and much more awaits in one of comics' most legendary series: *Lone Wolf and Cub*.

*"Lone Wolf echoes traditional Japanese art in its restrained, realistic vision and its unrestrained stories, which evoke classical samurai tales' blend of cultured aestheticism and sheer, ruthless bloody-mindedness."*

— The Onion

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